

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1886.

No. 718, New Series.

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LITERATURE.

*Life of General Sir Charles Napier, &c.** By William Napier Bruce. (John Murray).

MR. BRUCE has done well to remind the public of a once famous name which taught, as he justly says, a noble lesson :

“ *Disce, puer, virtutem ex me verumque labore, Fortunam ex alia.* ”

He begins with the beginning—his hero's birth (August 10, 1782); and chap. i., “ Early Years,” is not the least interesting part of a biography whose startling episodes commence with fighting Frenchmen in Spain, and terminate with fighting Lord Dalhousie (“ when brother Scots meet,” &c.) in India. During the great campaign he saw sundry “ beautiful fights.” He was taken prisoner; and one wound of many left him that curious jerk and twitch of the head and jaws which we all remember. He also brought back a confirmed habit (begun by corresponding with his mother) of putting down his impressions on paper with a freshness, a *naïveté*, and a vivacity which described the inner man; but with advancing years his pen ran into an extravagance which, combined with peculiar incontinence of tongue and passionate recklessness of assertion, produced a host of hot and rancorous enemies. Mr. Bruce puts it: “ His masterful spirit and irrepressible energy frightened steady-going officialism.” True; but, as Mr. Bruce's book shows, the statement covers too little ground. However, Major Napier came out of the campaign a man noted for conspicuous personal gallantry and for the *coup d'œil* which makes the general: “ Well done, my majors” (p. 16) will not be forgotten. There is no need to linger over his career in Bermuda, where he advocated for American warfare raising black troops and slave emancipation; in the Ionian Islands and Greece, where he met Byron and Trelawny, and squabbled with Sir F. Adam; over his studies, or over his taking command of the Northern District, where “ he was inclined to use buckshot” (which has given a *sobriquet* in later days) against the Chartists. The main interest of the biography begins (chap. v.) with October 1841, when Sir Charles Napier, sixty years old, and with forty-eight years of varied service which had given him much “ experience in the art of killing,” landed in India. He was so lacking in worldly wealth that when he took command in Poonah a Bombay firm,

they say, refused to advance him £500; and although he tried hard to learn Hindostani, he invariably dropped into a doze after a few minutes, and the Munshi, who stood behind his chair, was far too polite to awake him.

In August 1842 the Bombay Government applied for his services in Sind, Upper and Lower; and he set out with the following entry in his diary :

“ 3d. Sept.—Off in three hours, and this is old Oliver's day—the day he won Dunbar and Worcester, and the day he died; and a very good day to die on, as good as the second or the fourth! ‘ A crowning victory.’ Strange! Why are we superstitious? Why is there a devil? It puzzles man, and so he is superstitious.”

The idea of a man having time to write such utter “ bosh”!

But he was *mal vu* at home. He had called the high and mighty Court of Directors, then thronged in the Hall of Lead, “ ephemeral sovereigns”; he had quoted Lord Wellesley's “ ignominious tyrants of the East”; and he had said of the Great Company's rupee that it was stained with blood, and, “ wash it as much as you please, the cursed spot would not out.”

We have now a short and very inadequate sketch (pp. 157-64) of British relations with the Amirs of the Lower Indus. The meeting Major Outram opens the drama, which ends with the catastrophe “ I have sinned”; and we are hurried to the affairs of “ Meeanee” and “ Dubba.” Here, however, Mr. Bruce never attempts to throw light upon the dark corners of history. Outram saw, as did all India, that the conquest of Sind would be thrust upon us; and in more than one official despatch he had justified the measure by the ill-conduct of the Amirs, which he even exaggerated. But he naturally wished to keep the work for himself. He had been long enough among the “ politicals” to learn their policy—even the most honest men can justify such conduct to themselves; and when, after sundry blunders in the Sind campaign, he returned to England in 1843, he ranged himself on the popular side of the Directors, whose hatred for Sir Charles Napier had grown with his success. Hence a lasting breach, which only widened as the years went on.

In January 1843 Sir Charles Napier marched down from Upper Sind after blowing up Imam Garh, and the Sindis remembered the old prophecy averted the next conquest :

“ Lean blue (i.e. grey) steeds from the North shall haste.”

Their fears and hopes precipitated matters, and on February 17 took place the “ Battle of Meeanee.” Here again Mr. Bruce is simply popular. Of this celebrated affair there are two conflicting accounts. One is in the *Conquest of Scinde*, by Sir William Napier, the noble old soldier whom we all revered, admirably told, a perfect picture, but so careless of details that it caused endless chaff among the conqueror's staff at Government House, Karáchi. The other—a report by Major Waddington, of the Bombay Engineers—was a dry, sober, and matter-of-fact relation, which dwelt upon the shady rather than the bright side; and there is a third yet to be written. Neither of these authorities tell us, nor can we expect it, how the mulatto who commanded the Amirs' artillery had been per-

suaded to fire over their enemy's head, and how the Talpur commandant of cavalry—for a consideration—drew off his men as the action began, and set the shameless example of flight. When the day comes to look into the disbursements of “ Secret Service Money,” the public will learn strange things; and, meanwhile, those of us who have lived long enough to see how history is written can regard it only as a poor romance. Yet the results of “ Meeanee” must not be despised. Sir Charles Napier taught the English soldier once and for ever how to fight a winning fight against barbarians—be they Baloch or Sudani negroids. The recipe is beautifully simple: a sharp cannonade to shake the enemy's mass, an advance of infantry in line or *échelon*, and a dash of cavalry to do the cutting up.

Followed, March 24, 1843, the action at “ Dubba,” the tail of the storm, and this virtually ended the war. On April 8 the general was back at Hyderabad, “ having in sixteen days with 5,000 men defeated more than 26,000 in battle, captured two great fortresses, and marched two hundred miles under a Scindian sun” (p. 220). Despite Outram's predictions of guerilla warfare for ten years, the conqueror made in very few months the country much safer than any part of British India. In 1844, when I was levelling down the canals, the ryots blessed me, crying out, “ These men are worthy to rule us. Allah aid them who govern us for our good ! ”

Chap. vii., “ The Settlement of Scinde,” shows Sir Charles Napier as a most successful organiser, who disdained “ sticklers for abstract rights,” and gave the province what it wanted—a fine strong military despotic rule. But in the intervals of business the governor turned fiercely upon his old unfriends, the Directors, who had not only roused at him the whole Anglo-Indian world, but had the indescribable meanness (“ that quarrel with Hogg ! ”) to attempt a reduction of the prize-money he had earned so well. This made him venomous, and the local wit wrote :

“ Who, when he lived on shillings, swore Rupees were stained with Indian gore, And widows' tears for mottoes bore, But Charley ? ”

“ And yet who, in the last five years, So round a sum of that coin clears, In spite of gore and widows' tears, As Charley ? ”

The “ Trukku Campaign ” (January-March 1845) came to interrupt these ignoble disputes; and the “ Shaytán-ká Bhái ” (Satan's Brother), despite all his croakers, civil and military, followed up Bejá Khán and the hill-robbers to their hold, and took it without striking a blow. This episode was remarkable for originating the Land Transport Corps and the Baggage Corps, lasting boons to the Anglo-Indian Army, by which the genius of the veteran evolved order out of utter disorder, efficiency from extreme inefficiency.

I have no intention of following Sir C. Napier's career as Commander-in-chief of India, which was fated to fail, and which wrung from him the bitter cry, “ All is vanity ! ” But his unfair treatment and the recall of Lord Ellenborough, the idol of the army, sealed the fate of the Directors, and virtually abolished the “ Honourable East India Company.” He returned to England in March

* Preface, nine chapters, pp. 423 (vii. and 416), and appendix of officials, but no index, the eighth mortal sin; portrait much idealised, and hardly showing our original “ Fagin ” (as in my wife's Book *A. E. I.*); two illustrations, two plans, “ Meeanee” (which means any fishing village) and “ Dubba,” and two maps, which might have been reduced to page-size, and printed upright in *verso*.

1851, and died—in his bed—on August 29, feeling, and justly feeling, that he was an ill-used man. The reader will find, also, this well told in Mr. Bruce's volume: the reviewer has no room for it. Nor, with the fear of the editor before my eyes, will I quote certain Napierian nuts marked for quotation, especially in pp. 68, 76, 114, 176, 242, 286, 320, 331, 349 (very severe on the Directors), and 378.

R. F. BURTON.

Miscellanies, Prose and Verse. By William Maginn. Edited by W. Montague. (Sampson Low.)

The once famous "Doctor" has become nothing more than a name to the present generation; and it is to be feared that this collection of some of his most brilliant work will not be sufficient to elevate him to that place in English literature which he once bid fair to attain. Why, with all that learning and wit, that literary facility in prose and verse, that gift of acquiring languages, and the rest of it, which made him appear as a prodigy in the eyes of his contemporaries, he has fallen into such neglect has often been, and will often again be, a subject for a homily. But all that can be written about his careless habits and love of the bottle, however edifying, is not sufficient to account for the fact that a man of such varied power as "bright, broken, Maginn," should be so soon forgotten after his death. Many men who committed greater excesses (like Byron), or who had less self-control (like Coleridge), have made their immortality sure.

It is easy to say that if he had been more steady he might have produced more lasting work; but in this book of *Miscellanies*, full as it is of intellectual vigour, there is little to support such a theory. On the contrary, the most notable qualities of his work, the flashing wit, the Swiftian and Rabelaisian humour, the suddenness and audacity of his sallies, the swiftness of his arrows of scorn and sarcasm, are just those which would not have been fostered by a quiet and regular life. If he had scorned delight and lived laborious days, he might have annotated Shakspere, edited Greek plays, or added another to the forgotten translations of Homer; but we should never have had the "Maxims of O'Doherty" or the song of "The Irishman and the Lady." The world, doubtless, would not have been much poorer if deprived of these and other specimens of his fresher and wilder humour; but it was his freshness and his wildness that gave him his "flavour," and, without that, though he might have done a large amount of useful and scholarly work, he would not have gained so conspicuous a place in his generation, and the shadows of oblivion might have settled upon him without the "special wonder" of posterity.

Maginn was essentially a "Man of the Time"—a typical literary man in the days when a certain amount of scholarship and a capacity for hard drinking were necessary qualifications for the profession. "Man being reasonable must get drunk" was evidently part of Maginn's creed. We must not, of course, take the "Maxims of O'Doherty" too seriously; but the thirty-fourth embodies principles upon which he at least acted, if he

did not hold them. It is admirable after its fashion, though too long to quote. Maxim forty-second is of more practicable size, and has the merit for the present purpose of being in all probability entirely sincere.

"Never boozify a second time with the man whom you have seen misbehave in his cups. I have seen a great deal of life, and I stake myself upon the assertion that no man ever says or does that brutal thing when drunk which he would not also say and do when sober if *he durst*."

The following extract from maxim seventeenth is meant for a humorous exaggeration, but Maginn doubtless felt that it was an exaggeration of the truth:

"A man has no conception of the true sentimental sadness of the poetic mind unless he has been blind-drunk once and again, mixing tears with toddy, and the heigho with the hiccup."

His contempt for sober men was only equalled by his hatred of Whigs—in one case as the other he was an unflinching partisan. In this, again, he was typical of his time, carrying the strongest political animus even into the fields of literature. His review of *Adonais* was probably sincere, for he was too much blinded by party hate to see anything but the ridiculous and contemptible in Shelley and Keats. If he had lived he would probably have changed his mind; for he had too much literary sympathy to have remained ever deaf to the note of any true genius. It had been the same with regard to another poet. In his "Lament for Lord Byron" he confesses—

"In thy vigour of manhood
Small praise from my tongue
Had thy fame or thy talents
Or merriment wrung;
For that Church, and that State, and
That monarch I loved,
Which too oft thy hot censure
Or rash laughter moved."

A man so strongly biased in his generation cannot expect that posterity will attach much value to his critical or his political work, though they may gain him notoriety in his lifetime; but if we deduct these there is little left of Maginn but the jester, and the fame of the jester is notoriously short-lived. The fact is that all Maginn's brightest gifts were ephemeral in their nature; and it is only because they were so strong of their kind that his name still lives, and deserves to live for at least some time longer. Out of the present volume one smaller book might be made, every line of which could be read again and again with pleasure by those who love good jests and have some knowledge of the society in which Maginns were born. And beneath these jests there is no lack of wisdom to be found by those who can sift the grain from the chaff. Nevertheless it is doubtful whether Maginn can be regarded as a "wasted genius"; for if he had really anything serious to say which would have been of much interest to humanity at large, surely here or there some note of it would have been apparent in his current work. But we look in vain for any such sign. Jokes innumerable and excellent, parodies many and first-rate, paraphrases from Horace of much wit and ingenuity, we find indeed; but all these were humorous reflections in the current with which he and his fame were

swept away. His translations show more stability; and if we take his Homeric ballads and put them beside his translation from Vidocq we must admit an unusually wide range of literary sympathy. But the light of these is reflected; and though it is impossible to deny him originality or imagination, both of these required a stimulus from some other mind to set them in action. It was not when alone with his own thoughts, but when he was parodying Coleridge or Shelley, that he was in most danger of "dropping into poetry."

Nevertheless, one does not need to be told that Maginn was a very remarkable man, and had once a great reputation. The opinion of his contemporaries is amply justified by this collection of his prose and verse. Prose so vigorous and spirited has seldom been written, verses so various and facile are very rare. Every line of both is alive. To enjoy much of it we have perhaps to surrender some of our more modern prejudices and to adopt Maginn's. It requires some little effort to feel at home in his jovial company, and view things through the spectacles of

"The slashing, dashing, smashing
Lashing, thrashing, hashing Irishman";
but those who can do so will find it well worth the trouble.

Little praise can be given to the manner in which these *Miscellanies* have been "edited," for they have not been edited at all. They have been printed without arrangement, without notes, without a record of the journals and magazines in which they appeared, and without the dates of their appearance; and they are prefaced by a meagre and commonplace memoir. If Maginn were worth any trouble he was worth more than this.

COSMO MONKHOUSE.

The Parnell Movement: with a Sketch of Irish Parties from 1843. By T. P. O'Connor. (Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.)

WHAT Parnellism is everyone fancies he understands. How it came to be what it is, why and wherein it differs from O'Connellism, and Young Irelandism, and Fenianism, and the *ism* of Isaac Butt, is not so clear even to that Philistine intellect which assumes itself to be omniscient in Irish matters. Mr. O'Connor, therefore, has done a very timely work in tracing the growth of the movement and connecting it with previous movements of a similar kind. He calls his book "an indictment of the Act of Union"; but as a clear and very readable account of Irish affairs from the point where Sir C. G. Duffy left them in his *Four Years of Irish History*, it is a good deal more than a political manifesto. To the question: Is it impartial? I reply by another: Is it impartial to fairly marshal facts and then to draw your own conclusions? To show, for instance, that, just before and during the famine, corn and cattle were exported in unexampled quantities; and then to lay the blame of this not on the ministry of the day, but on that land system which the Union Parliament refused to modify, and which "necessitated the export of food from a starving nation"—that is a sample of Mr. O'Connor's impartiality; and it is impartiality of the right sort. Absolutely im-

partial an historian, nay, even a chronicler, cannot be. Enough if he tells all the facts; and this Mr. O'Connor does in a way that no enemy can find fault with. Thus, while he admits (every sane man must) the grandeur of O'Connell's work, he unsparingly points out O'Connell's weaknesses: his blindly sacrificing the forty-shilling freeholders (and thereby making eviction easy and natural); his clinging to the Whigs—so strange in spite of their repeated treachery. Again, in "the Great Betrayal," when he is gibbeting Keogh and John Sadleir, you are irresistibly reminded of Mr. Froude dilating with unction on the fathomless perfidy, the indescribable baseness, which astonished (while it assisted) Sidney and Drury in their struggle with O'Neil and Desmond. All at once, however, you are pulled up by the reminder that this very Sadleir was raised to the Treasury Bench, while Keogh, who, in a Westmeath election, had told "the boys" that the dark winter nights would bring woe to those who voted for Sir R. Levinge, was actually made a judge. And then it becomes clear that Mr. O'Connor's aim in thus portraying that bitterest of Ireland's curses—the patriot turned placeman—is not, as Mr. Froude's was, to prove that the Irish nature is inherently vile, but to show how government by English parties (*i.e.*, on Union principles) inevitably tends to degrade that nature, and to bring to the front its worst characteristics. So, again, while duly praising Isaac Butt's intellect, Mr. O'Connor lays bare his shortcomings, and the wretched elements of which his following was made up. Nor, coming to the events of yesterday, does he ever palliate outrages, though, of course, he points out that the lists were manipulated in the most farcical way—one assault being divided so as to count as seven, the glass-breaking being reckoned as one, the stone-throwing as another, and so on. What he does is to show that under Mr. Forster's system they could not fail to multiply; and that the calamity (it was more than a tragedy) of May 6, 1882, was the outcome of a frenzy brought about by the Tralls and the Clifford Lloyds, though by a strange infatuation the English people accepted it as vindicating, instead of hopelessly condemning, the Forster policy.

Mr. O'Connor writes well, and, unlike some of his countrymen, he never wanders off on side issues; and, though in his earlier chapters he has to go over old ground, he always keeps clear of worn-out tracks. His portraits of leading Parnellites—for most English readers the *bonne bouche* of the book—are not flattered. He can credit Mr. Healy with marvellous energy, and with that clearness of thought which made it quite within the truth to say that he was one of the only three men who understood the Land Act of 1881. He can record with amusing calmness the epithet "ticket-nipper" and such like amenities of what it is a libel on England to call society journals. And yet he can admit the occasional exaggeration of Mr. Healy's language and conduct. And so of the rest. Even in Mr. Biggar, to whose sterling worth and kindly nature he pays a tribute as large as it is well deserved, and of whom it may be said that he was a Parnellite before Mr. Parnell himself, he regrets the "sparse education" which left the strength of character to work unaided.

Often, as when he outlines Mr. Forster and Mr. Lowther, a few strokes are enough to etch an unmistakeable likeness; but in such cases the acid bites deeply. Mr. Lowther's "brusque humour that smacked somewhat of the stable"; Mr. Thorold Rogers crying out for coercion and accusing Mr. Parnell of appropriating the League funds, and then, when the election came on, appealing to the Irish voters for forgiveness; Mr. Gladstone moving all Europe about the Dulcigno farce, and ignoring what at the same time was going on in Ireland—such sketches tell more than the most finished portraits.

And what does this able book teach us? One point must strike the most superficial reader—the immense superiority, in material as well as in organisation, of the Parnellite party over all its predecessors. Man for man, its members may not have the talents of the Young Irelanders, but they are disciplined under a capable leader. Above all, the nation has been educated up to something like real union and united action. Setting aside the police, who answer to-day to the "Queen's Irish" in the struggle between O'Neil and Elizabeth, and the Orange rowdies whose vapourings would cease if once they were convinced that they had nothing to hope for from either English party—the people are all one way of thinking. And thus, though a Tory-Liberal compact may manage to maintain the *status quo*, this can only be done with the gravest peril to our foreign relations; and to attempt it will be to confess that England has no statesman of the calibre of Deak, or even of the thoroughness of Von Stein.

Another point (for the English reader) is the absurdity of calling an agrarian struggle a war of races. Even in the North it is not race hatred but religious bigotry which makes the Orangemen so malignant; while, among landlords, it is not the "brutal Saxon" (who is actually found here and there, like Lord Fitzwilliam, giving his tenants the sorely-needed reduction of fifty per cent.), it is the small native oppressor (often an ex-gombeen man turned landjobber) who is, and always has been, the cruellest tyrant, the most successful manufacturer of Invincibles and Dynamiters. Yet another point is the mischief done by newspapers, not by the so-called society journals or comic prints alone, but, to their shame be it said, by those which speak with authority. Mr. O'Connor does not quote the raciest *Times morceaux*, but he gives enough (p. 201) to close the mouths of those who complain about strong language in *United Ireland*. I see that a powerful man among his co-religionists, the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, editor of the *Methodist Times*, notes the gross way in which the English press stirs up ill-feeling by fanning the flame of national hatred; and for his timely protest I am glad to take this opportunity of heartily thanking him.

The Parnell movement then, beginning with the collapse of Mr. Butt, began as a Land League movement. It speedily went in for Home Rule, because everyone soon saw, during the debates on the Land Act of 1881, that a Union Parliament is incapable of dealing successfully with the question. In fact, the rejection by the Peers of the Disturbance Bill, without which the Act was simply illusive, first gave the move-

ment its paramount importance—an importance which the wholesale imprisonment of the party chiefs at once made permanent. Of course Parnellism never could have been the power that it is but for the help of that Greater Ireland which was mainly created by the famine; and here I note the only omission which has struck me in these 500 pages. Mr. O'Connor ought surely to have mentioned the self-devotion of Mr. Vere Foster, who braved over and over again the horrors of the middle passage, till he forced the Government to adopt a system of inspection. He might also have noted the blindness (worse than that of Lord G. Bentinck and Lord Stanley, who scouted the idea of a famine as "a gross delusion") which could flatter itself that the mischief was over when once the human rubbish was shovelled off across the Atlantic. None but a race of political ostriches would have dreamed that the "Celt" (as able editors then called him) could be got rid of in that way.

And now, what hope is there amid this dreary *da capo* of disunion and self-seeking, and outrage and coercion. Will the movement collapse, if English parties combine to crush the 86 members, as, in the coercion struggle of 1881, they crushed, for the moment, the original 20? Such a question cannot be discussed in a literary journal. Those who care to know Ireland's answer to it (and that answer is important now that the English press has become almost wholly one-sided) should read Mr. O'Connor. He expects to convert some of his readers to Home Rule, or at least "to convince them that the Union has been a fatal heritage to both Ireland and England." Whether he succeeds in this or not, no fair-minded reader will hesitate to say of his work what he says of Mr. Justin McCarthy's *History of Our Own Times*: "Its style is as praiseworthy as its tone and temper. Equal justice is dealt out to all parties. There is no attempt at rhetoric—not one phrase or passage which could be called pretentious"; and this is no slight praise at a time like the present.

HENRY STUART FAGAN.

"THE BADMINTON LIBRARY."

Fishing.—Salmon and Trout. By H. Cholmondeley-Pennell and other Contributors.

Pike, and other Coarse Fish. By the same. (Longmans.)

FISHING is said already to possess a larger literature than all our other country sports put together, and a glance into the pages of *Bibliotheca Piscatoria* will tend to prove the assertion. Doubtless many worthless books have been indited on angling. This pleasant pastime has also lent itself more than others to the reproduction in one generation of what has been written by another. The proverbial lack of conscience attributed to fishermen with regard to the weight of their captures extends also to their dealing with the angling books of the past. Notwithstanding these drawbacks and imperfections, we have a catholic taste in angling literature. That stout-hearted Col. Robert Venables, hoping in 1662 "this art may prove a noble brave rest" to our mind, and simple contented Walton, and the ruffling cavalier Cotton, softened from his ribaldry by the mild influ-

ences of angling, should delight a fisherman goes for granted. As well might he quarrel with Dame Juliana Berners or Leonard Mascall, their honoured ancestors in the art of angling, as with them. Kingsley, too, the truest fisherman of this century, holds a high place of honour in our affections. Even the bald style of Chetham, Nobbes, Bowker, and Salter, pleases in certain moods; while we would not willingly destroy the productions of Roberts, Knox, and many a score of other writers, the smallest minnows of angling literature. At all events, they write of streams and fish, south breezes and spring mornings. A glance at their pages often awakes an association, and that pleasant memory shall still protect them from the second-hand bookseller.

Mr. Pennell in these two volumes has surveyed the whole field of British fresh-water angling. This has often been done before; but the art of fishing is progressive, and has advanced largely in consequence of the Fisheries Exhibition. In addition to this, the newspapers which specially treat of angling have of late years admitted much correspondence, detailing fresh experiments and discoveries, into their columns, so that useless though a fresh book on the subject seemed at the first blush, it really was much wanted. Mr. Pennell's book embraces the newest discoveries in tackle and the like, the most accredited methods of taking the different kinds of fish, and the little secrets and aids in angling which his long experience has garnered. It will not supersede Scrope with regard to salmon, and F. Francis's book on fishing is more practical with regard to trout; but its intention, we take it, is not to supersede separate works so much as to supply an encyclopaedic treatise. This end has been admirably attained. Every article of an angler's equipment that could require an illustration here possesses it, the tyro is guided judiciously at every step of his progress, and Mr. Pennell's pleasant style will lure the veteran to solace himself with these volumes in the chimney corner when close seasons and tempestuous weather keep him at home.

Turning to the volume on the nobler fish, an excellent account of the British Salmonidae, carefully avoiding those "problems" of which anglers have lately heard so much, introduces a good paper on "Salmon-fishing with the Fly," by Major J. P. Traherne. The recently adopted practice of fishing with the dry fly on chalk streams is explained by Mr. H. S. Hall, while Mr. T. Andrews treats salmon and trout culture, in which he is an acknowledged proficient. Gladly do we welcome two chapters on fly-fishing and Thames trout-fishing by an honoured name in the craft, Mr. H. R. Francis, well remembering his essay on the "Fly-fisher and his Library," written some thirty years ago. An index enables the angler to turn to every item of the knowledge thus stored up for him.

The editor especially recommends eyed hooks for fly-fishing, both in the case of salmon and trout; and in all probability these will, in a few years, entirely supersede the ordinary hook. The proper knot for affixing these to the line is well figured and explained. He also suggests the use of double hooks brayed together, especially in the case of the smaller salmon-flies. To us they always

have something of a poaching look. The advantage which an eyed hook possesses of not easily "flicking off" is greatly in its favour, to mention only one of its improvements on the old gear. Mr. Pennell falls into a popular error when he writes of "working" or "playing" a hooked fish, "the former term, perhaps, having an objective, the other a subjective reference." "Playing" a fish is simply the old English word for "fighting" it; and has no reference to the pleasure popularly supposed to be derived from so doing, which has brought such undeserved opprobrium on anglers. The word "sword-play" and a reference to 2 Sam. ii. 14, will prove this. In advocating the use of two hooks instead of the three usually known as "Stewart's tackle" in worm-fishing for trout, Mr. Pennell agrees with the best recent experience. He does not recommend the curious whisked nondescript flies for trout, which in a former book he advocated—much to our relief, as we could never induce a trout to look at them. The jury of flies which Mr. Francis does advise is a useful list, and will certainly stand the beginner in good stead.

The second volume opens with the capture of the pike by every legitimate mode of fishing. No one is better able to write these chapters than the editor, and, needless to say, they are excellent. No "coarse" fish so-called is more worthy of an angler's steel than the pike. Every scrap of information about its habits that could be desired is added. The other common fish succeed in order, and the tackle and baits needful for them are duly described. Mr. Senior, another acknowledged authority, appends a chapter on "Roach Fishing as a Fine Art." It will delight all townsmen. "Norfolk Broad and River Fishing" is pleasantly treated by Mr. G. C. Davies; while the Marquis of Exeter and Mr. Marston speak like experts on "Fish Cultivation and Piscicultural Experiments at Burghley." Another index renders all this fishlore at once accessible to the angler. The use of lead wire as a sinker, advocated by Mr. Pennell, must be a great improvement on the time-honoured shot. Even an enthusiast may well quail before the prescription of bullock's brains chewed as a good ground bait. It is as old as Bowker; but the "pith" bait is a recent invention of the Nottingham anglers. All these nostrums may be very effectual in practice; but they rather smack of the man's fat, mummy and larded eat of our ancestors' fishing receipts. The historic carp in the pond at Versailles—which are here mentioned, and which were said to have grown white through age—we have seen, and agree with Mr. R. W. Stuart, who recently visited them. They are not white, but only blotched and piebald through age. Our observations were made literally at the bayonet's point, for a jealous sentinel kept strict guard over them. We have not read M. Dufosse's researches on the perch; but they must be very conclusive to allow us to believe that this fish is "normally unisexual," or, rather, bisexual, and that each individual fish can propagate its own species.

Mr. Pennell's enquiries into the best form of hook, and the likelihood of each quickly penetrating and sustaining the greatest strain, are ingenious and well worth the notice of

every fisherman. As for the best combination of hooks wherewith to catch a pike, he has figured three "flights, the ultimate outcome of my experiments"; and the wonder would be if any pike (or any mahseer for that matter), once finding these barbed tormentors in its jaws, ever escaped their horrid clutch. The advice on chub fishing is particularly sensible. The two new knots which Mr. Pennell has introduced to anglers seem simplicity and security combined. In a word, wherever these volumes may be opened the angler will find practical directions rather than the plausible theories of too many angling books. They are beautifully printed, although we have noticed a few misprints in the volume on coarse fish: "Horsea" for "Hornsea" mere, "Block" for "Bloch" the ichthyologist, "creatram" for "creatuarum," and the like. But both volumes are worthy of their authors and of their dedication to the Prince of Wales. They are simply indispensable in every country-house, and will certainly supersede every other general manual on the subject.

M. G. WATKINS.

The Contemporary Evolution of Religious Thought in England, America, and India.
By Count Goblet d'Alviella. Translated by J. Moden. (Williams & Norgate.)

This is a remarkably thoughtful and suggestive work. Its author is Professor of Comparative Theology in the University of Brussels, and his book is a worthy outcome of his office. It is a study in comparative theology, though within a somewhat restricted area. It professes to deal with the freer movements of religious thought now going on in England, America, and India. But, although its survey is, geographically speaking, partial, its limitation of scope is in no way arbitrary. The author finds in those three countries certain religious forces and tendencies strikingly similar to each other. He is especially impressed by the coincidence in progress and aim of liberal Christianity in England and America with the Brahmo Somaj in India. He says:

"Doubtless there is something both impressive and remarkable in the contact of two currents of religious thought, which having originated in Central Asia and moved in opposite directions with the Aryan migrations five or six thousand years ago, are thus meeting on the common ground of an eclectic and rational faith as the result of a like evolution" (p. 303).

This appears to be the root thought and primary impulse of the book; but in carrying it out the author has grouped around it incidental notices of the highest possible interest to the religious thinker. A doubt may, perhaps, be suggested whether its learned author, with the bias almost inseparable from his mode of treatment, may not have exaggerated the influences—whether considered in themselves or as bearing on the main currents of religious progress—of certain isolated and eccentric phases of liberal Christianity. A contemplation limited to a few similar aspects among a vast and complex array of phenomena, whether political or religious, is almost certain to induce a disproportionate estimate of their value. But with this, and a few minor qualifications—such, e.g., as the exposition of reason and religion, religion and morality, set forth

in the introduction—the work may be unreservedly commended as a sympathetic and enlightened survey of the freer developments of religious thought.

The author's qualifications for his task are apparent in every page of his treatise. A spirit of befitting reverence towards every form of genuine religion, a calmly judicial, but withal critical tone, shrewd philosophical insight into the bearings and relations of human speculation on "the problem of problems," the tenderest possible consideration for human waywardness and eccentricity in the difficult path of truth-search—such are the qualities which will commend his work to every thoughtful and ingenuous reader. He describes his own personal characteristics in terms which would shock a severe dogmatist, but which serve to throw a flood of light on his treatment of religious diversities:

"Why not avow it, even at the risk of being taxed with indifference or ever-changing opinions by those who do not understand me? I was little short of feeling myself a Unitarian when with Dr. Martineau in England or with Mr. Savage in the United States; a Theist with Mr. Voysey; a Transcendentalist at Boston with Theodore Parker; a believer in the Divinity of the Cosmos at New Bedford with Mr. Potter; a Humanitarian at New York with Mr. Adler; and even a Brahmoist at Calcutta with the leaders of the Brahmo Somaj. To say the least, if I had been born in any one of these systems of belief, in all probability I should have remained in it, because it would have presented no barrier to my moral and intellectual development" (Introduction, p. 3).

Whatever might be alleged against such a confession of faith, or the religious sensitiveness and breadth of sympathy on which it is based, in the case of ordinary persons, few will deny that they constitute an admirable qualification for a professor of comparative theology. In no field of human research is it so hard to find teachers who have full sympathetic interest in their work as in that of expounding diverse and alien religious systems.

Coming closer to Count d'Alviella's method, we find it to be partly historical, partly expository. Thus he gives us in succinct form "The Progress of Free Enquiry in England since the Reformation"; "The History of English Unitarianism"; a compendious narrative of the different stages through which the Transcendental movement has passed in America; and an interesting account of Brahmoism in India—each of these thought-movements being accompanied by a running comment, keen and thoughtful in the highest degree, on its causes and probable outcome. Foremost in suggestive value among the more purely expository portions of the book is his account of evolution as represented by Herbert Spencer's philosophy, and its relation to traditional theology. I do not know any work in which the elementary and indestructible elements in the popular conceptions of the Divine Being which agnosticism has been unable to exorcise are more fully and fairly described. To thoughtful theologians of all classes this portion of the work may be commended as full of weighty remark and useful suggestion. I cannot refrain from quoting a few sentences on this point as indicating the author's point of view and evincing his philosophic spirit:

"It is true he [Spencer] drops the name of

God and substitutes for it the term Unknowable, which affords him the double advantage of not being compromised by metaphysical associations, and of constantly reminding him of the incomprehensible character of the supreme Reality. But, in rigidly refusing to define this Unknowable, he treats it as *Being* and as *Power*; he ascribes to it immanence, unity, omnipresence, and unlimited persistence in time and space; he assigns to it the laws of Nature as modes of action; and, finally, with respect to both external and internal phenomena, he regards it as sustaining the relation of substance to manifestation, and even of cause to effect. If, therefore, Spencer deviates from pure and simple Pantheism, it is merely in so far as this confounds God with the universe, while our philosopher sees in the Unknowable, not only the substance of the world and the immanent cause of all its phenomena, but over and above this a transcendent power which surpasses all definition" (pp. 43-4).

This part of the book, or speaking more fully, all the author's remarks on the relation of agnosticism to religion, deserves the greater attention, inasmuch as agnosticism must be regarded as the most dangerous foe of Christian theology in the present day. Not that theology has much to fear from absolutely unqualified and acquiescent agnosticism. That is an intellectual condition so rare that it may almost be doubted whether there is a single demonstrable instance of its existence. If it can in any given case be said to exist, it can only be by the persistent self-determination of an intellect specially qualified for that purpose. In every normal and fully-formed mind the state of total vacuity is one of unstable equilibrium which instinctively seeks for some method or degree of rest and satisfaction. No doubt when the agnostic position is stated in an extreme form it makes all theology—I might even say all metaphysical speculation—a sheer absurdity. When it is set forth, as by Spencer himself, in a moderate and philosophical form, the position is best met by a frank recognition both of its truth and, under existing circumstances, of its inevitability. The ingenuous method of Bishop Butler in the *Analogy* must be applied wherever applicable. Empirical and metempirical truth must be admitted to stand upon different planes of certitude. Theologians must learn to state speculative dogmas in a less dogmatic manner, as well as to admit that probability of a greater or less degree is all the *intellectual* basis that can be assigned for most of the speculative beliefs of mankind. Such a position, so far from being novel, is merely a restatement of the Pauline contrast between Faith and Sight. In short, Faith truly understood is so far from being a synonym for intellectual conviction that it implies and is attested by consciously imperfect certitude. As Crashaw says in his Epigram on the New Birth:

"Ignoras, Pharisae? sat est: jam credere disces:

"Dimidium Fidei, qui bene nescit, habet"—

lines of which the Laureate's well-known couplet on the proportion of Faith existing in "honest doubt" are little else than a literal rendering. If agnosticism soberly stated were thus treated, theologians would have small reason to dread any ill effects from its diffusion. On the contrary, the self-same principle of incertitude combined with search, doubt wedded to aspiration, would then be

shown to obtain in the now antagonistic fields of theology and science.

Count d'Alviella rightly considers that whatever changes may take place in popular religion, its essential constituents are indestructible. No criticism, no philosophy, can destroy the infinite in the universe around us or its reflection in the soul of man. He apparently forecasts a religion of the future which, while embracing all the moral and some of the spiritual features of Christianity, shall dispense with its traditional form. But such forecasts are not only idle, they are entirely unsupported by any considerable aggregate of phenomena in the religious movements of the present day. It might even happen that in the largest sections of the religious world we might witness in the near future a retrograde movement towards mediaevalism, together with the sacerdotalism and obscurantism which that term involves. Certain phenomena observable in our own country and on the Continent undoubtedly seem to point in that direction.

Before concluding I must offer a passing protest. Count d'Alviella's policy is to take the claims and professions of religious and other thinkers *quantum valeant*, without question or criticism. If certain extreme negationists claim to be free-thinkers he allows their claim. A little application, however, of the Count's critical power would have suggested to him the absurdity of applying the term free-thought to systems which persistently exclude and inhibit *all* thought. Nothing, indeed, proves more clearly the shallowness of popular conceptions on many points of philosophy than the allowance of the claim of extreme agnostics, atheists, and negationists of all kinds to the title of free-thinkers. Every unqualified negationist is only a free-thinker in the sense that a man who commits suicide proves himself a free-actor. The freedom is employed solely for purposes of self-destruction.

The translation seems to be executed with much care and skill, and the translator has appended certain elucidatory notes of considerable use to the English reader.

JOHN OWEN.

Everyday Life in China; or, Scenes along River and Road in Fuh-Kien. By Edwin Joshua Dukes. (The Religious Tract Society.)

THE province of Fuh-Kien has earned for itself a conspicuous place in contemporary Chinese history. It has of late years been the scene of the most determined opposition to foreigners, and especially missionaries; and more recently the river entrance to the capital city has become notorious as forming one of the points of attack in the Franco-Chinese war. Geographically it consists of a portion of the eastern slope of the Nan-Shan ranges, and covers an area of 53,480 square miles. The scenery over the greater part of it is very beautiful, and nature has added to her bounties by bestowing on it a productive soil. The best Bohea tea is grown within its boundaries, and crops of every kind common to the latitude flourish and abound.

Such is the district of which Mr. Dukes writes; and since, as his map shows, he has travelled through the whole length of it, he

may be accepted as an authority on it. Mr. Dukes is a missionary, but he is a man of sufficiently wide views to enable him to escape from the strictly professional ideas on the subjects he describes and discusses. He finds much to admire in the Chinese, and holds "that the higher the personal character of the critic, whether missionary or layman, the more favourable is his estimate" of the people. Their conspicuous filial piety, their moderation and peaceableness, their habitual courtesy and politeness, and their outward morality are national traits which deserve the respect and admiration of all. People are so apt to look upon the Chinese as incomparably lower in the scale of morality than ourselves that it is interesting to learn the results of a comparison made from the other side. Mr. Dukes states that

"a well-known missionary and scholar asked Ambassador Kwoh what he thought of England. He replied, 'It is a fine country, and your people are very ingenuous; but their immorality is very lamentable. It is a pity they have not become possessed of right principles. Vice is very common in many forms. I cannot admire the low standard of propriety and goodness which characterises your great country.'

This, of course, is but a superficial view of English society; yet it is as well founded as that which represents Chinese morality as being infinitely degraded. From a social point of view, also, there is much to like in the Chinese character; and, though their wit is not sparkling, they are by no means deficient in a grim kind of humour. Mr. Dukes tells a characteristic story of some chair coolies whom he had engaged to carry him a day's journey. At one of the halting places on the road the coolies were plied with *samshu*, the effects of which became so palpable before they had advanced far on the next stage that Mr. Dukes was obliged to walk the rest of the way, leaving the men to follow. At the end of the day, when they applied for their wages, they had the assurance to ask for an advance on the stipulated sum. "What," Mr. Dukes said, "you dare to ask an extra fee after compelling me to walk for miles, and delaying me for several hours." "But think, teacher," one of them said with a broad grin, "think what a trouble we had to get you along."

Mr. Dukes speaks with well-founded enthusiasm of the scenery he met with on this and other journeys, and contrasts it with the wretched dwellings and insanitary arrangements peculiar to Chinese villages and cities. No doubt these appear very deplorable to a European, to whom it is a never-ceasing puzzle "how a Chinaman manages to survive the fetid smells that meet his olfactories at every turn in town and village"; but habit makes even these endurable, and Chinamen have as yet certainly shown no inclination to adopt any system in exchange for their own.

"'Tis seldom when the bee doth leave her comb
In the dead carrion."

We have not sufficient space at command to speak in detail of the subjects treated of in *Everyday Life in China*; but we can confidently recommend the book to any who may wish to gain a general idea of Fuh-kien and the Fuh-kienese, as well as of the work which has been done, and is being done, by the Protestant missionaries in the province.

ROBERT K. DOUGLAS.

BOOKS ON ANCIENT HISTORY.

Handbuch der Griech. Staatsalterthümer. Von G. Gilbert. Vol. II. (Trübner.) The first volume of this handbook (published in 1881) treated of the constitutional history of Sparta and Athens, and the second deals with the constitutions of the other Greek states, and discusses the development of the state; kingly power, oligarchy, tyrannis, democracy; classes of population; polity and courts; war and finance; international law; the relation of the colonies to the mother towns; and confederacies. The plan of the book seems to us good; the text gives in a pleasant and readable manner a concise account of the facts, while the notes supply the references and criticism of the various opinions held by scholars. The account of the constitution of each state is on the whole comprehensive and yet complete: only a few points have escaped the notice of the author. Thus in the account of Boeotia he has omitted what Plut. *Ages.* 6 (cf. Xen. *Hell.* 3, 4, 4) relates about the functions of the Boeotarchs as administrative magistrates; and no mention is made of the *ραιάρχος* (*Rang. Ant.* No. 1313). Gilbert's explanation of the *ἀρεβιαρχεῖστες*, as a special commission, is more probable than any other so far propounded, including that of C. W. Müller in Pauly's *Realencycl.* i. 2409, which he does not mention. The correct interpretation of Liv. 32, 2, for which he gives Lian's credit, had been suggested long before by Freeman, whose *History of Federal Government* is nowhere referred to; there, too, on p. 183, he would have found confirmation of his view as to the appointment of a single *αρπαγῆς* as head of the league after 245 B.C. Altogether the references to English writers are somewhat scanty: e.g., we miss on p. 155 Hicks's paper on an "Inscription from Priene" (*Jour. Hell. Soc.* iv., 237), on p. 213 Newton's "Inscription from Kalymnos" (*ib. ii.* 362), where the eponymous magistrate is the Stephanophorus, &c. Gilbert frequently refers the reader to the first volume, without however adding to or correcting, when necessary, his former statements. Thus on p. 288, in speaking of the social condition of slaves, he refers to vol. i. 164 foll., without giving Lipsius's correction of Meier's opinion (*Att. Proc.*, p. 320, new ed. p. 399); on p. 332 he might have made good his omission of the *βρισταί* at Athens, cf. *Hyper.* 3, col. 29; and on the same page he might have corrected what he says (vol. i., p. 226) about the time when the *ἀποέκται* were first introduced at Athens, Christ (*de publ. pop. Athen. rationibus*, 1879) showing clearly that they were appointed much later (this explains also the mention of the *κωλακέραι* in the Eleusinian inscription to which Bury calls attention in *Hermath.* 1881, p. 93). In the second part Gilbert gives a condensed account from the standard works dealing with the various subjects with numerous additions. Here, too, we have noticed some omissions. Thus no account is made to Leist (*Greaco-ital. Rechtsgesch.*) on p. 262 foll., nor to Leaf's paper on Homeric armour in the *Jour. Hell. Soc.*, nor to Müllenhoff's discussion (*Deutsche Altertumskunde*, i.) of the question as to the direct amber trade between the Greek colonies on the Euxine and the coast of the Baltic, &c. It would be wrong, however, to attach too much importance to such omissions in the first edition of a book which is sure to prove of great use to the student of Greek history.

Du Droit de Cité Romaine: Etudes d'Épigraphie juridique. Première Série. Par N.-Henry Michel. (Paris: Larose et Forcet.) M. Michel has laid down the plan of his work with quite a German thoroughness and *Gründlichkeit*. To study Roman citizenship completely, it must be envisaged from three points of view. How was it acquired? What advantages did it confer? How was the pos-

session of it marked? For the present, M. Michel deals only with the last of these questions. The external signs of the possession of Roman citizenship were also three—costume, speech, and name. Hence we find some rather disparate subjects treated in one volume—the toga, the language, and the elaborate Roman system of names. Of course the last topic takes by far the greatest amount of room. The reader will learn from M. Michel all the ordinary lessons about Roman names and the various information which may be extracted from them; he will be the wiser for more than one excursion on disputed points; and he will pick up a good many hints as to the interpretation of Latin inscriptions; for M. Michel justifies his claim to *épigraphie juridique* by illustrating every possible point from inscriptions, and by making Wilmanns and the *Digest* throw a good deal of light on each other. But, with all its *lucidus ordo* and its incidental advantages, the book does not leave quite a pleasant impression. There is no index, and that deprives an epigraphical work of more than half its usefulness. All the Latin passages are accompanied by French translations—an unscholarly practice; but no Greek author is quoted verbatim at all, in spite of the many references to Dion Cassius and Plutarch. M. Michel has, too, some very careless oversights, as in rendering *HS. N. XXX.* by *quarante mille sestères* (p. 269). Much more serious are his mere blunders in translation; and this we must substantiate by two examples. (1) An inscription (Wilmanns 624), giving the career of M. Valerius Maximus, contains these phrases: *FLEBEM · DE · SACRO · MONTE · DEDVXIT · GRATIAM · CVM · PATRIBVS · RECONCILIAVIT · FAENOORE · GRAVI · POPVLOM · SENATVS · HOC · EIVS REI · AVCTORE · LIBERAVIT · SELLAE CVRVLIS LOCVS · IPSI · POSTERISQVE · AD · MVRICIAI · SPECTANDI · CAVSA · DATVS · EST.* The meaning is plain: M. Valerius reconciled the *plebs* with the *patres* (probably the patricians), and the senate, on his motion, relieved the people of their burden. But M. Michel, apparently misunderstanding and misplacing *FAENOORE GRAVI*, translates—"Il ramena dans Rome les plébiens réfugiés sur le Mont-Sacré; il rétablit le concorde entre les patriciens et les plébiens accablés par les dettes; pour le récompenser des services rendus, le Sénat lui octroya une chaise curule," and so on (p. 113). (2) Cicero, *Top.* 6, *Nihil enim video Scævolam pontificem ad hanc definitionem addidisse. Atque haec ratio valet in utroque genere definitionum, sive id quod est, sive id quod intelligitur, definitendum est.* "Je ne vois pas que le pontif Scævola ait ajouté quoi que ce soit à cette définition. Dans les deux cas [What two?] la définition fait bien comprendre la chose définie et comment il faut l'entendre" (pp. 165-66). Comment here is superfluous.

Quomodo Provinciarum Romanarum (qualem sub fine Reipublicae Tullius efficit) Conditio Principatum peperisse videatur. Thesim facultati Litterarum Parisiensi proponebat Emile Bourgeois. (Paris: Hachette.) Little fault can be found with M. Bourgeois's thesis, except that it does not quite answer to its title. He unfolds in rounded periods the well-worn tale of the wrongs of the provinces under the republic. In doing this, he chiefly follows, according to his promise, the evidence of Cicero, but he is careful to point out that the evidence of Cicero must be estimated with reference to Cicero's position and point of view at the moment of its delivery. In theory he thinks the position of the provinces was not very bad; but in practice the licence enjoyed by the governors and their bargains with the *publicani* (pp. 13, 92) spoiled all. The chief causes of their actually wretched state were (1) the want of a sufficiently definite charter; (2) the understanding between the

classes of Romans, "inter senatores equitesque inita ad quaeatum societas"; (3) the inefficiency of the means of redress at Rome—the Romans looked to nothing but their national profit in making and administering the provinces; (4) the temporary interests of the governor opposed to the permanent interests even of the Roman state. It mattered nothing, as M. Bourgeois justly says, to the governor whether he consumed the revenue only of his province or trenched upon the capital as well; in fact it was his interest to seize as much as he could of both. Under the empire the interests of the state and those of the one governor (the emperor) ceased to be opposed, although this did not later, say in the time of Diocletian, prevent the income and the capital of the provinces from being alike diminished by injudicious taxation, a result however rather of ignorance than of cupidity. But all this being so, how did the condition of the provinces actually produce the imperial form of government? This M. Bourgeois does not show us. He only shows that it explains why the provinces did not reject the new form of government, which is not the same thing. "Neque mirum igitur provincias hunc novum rerum statum non abnuisse." But this was only a favourable condition, not an efficient cause which "principatum peperisse videtur." However, the essay is a good, careful piece of work. We should like to see M. Bourgeois's authority for saying that Caesar wished to give the citizenship to all the Sicilians (p. 101). It is flatly against the assertion of Cicero, his leading witness. The point is really important, as Dr. Mommsen's imaginative chapter on the dictator shows. This alleged fact removed, there is little to bear Mommsen out in his ascription of large, humanitarian, levelling views to Caesar. We are not sure of what M. Bourgeois means when, after saying that Dion Cassius makes Maeccenas advise Octavianus to give the citizenship to all the provincials, he remarks "Dubium autem est Octavianum amici sui consilia ea saltem de re secutum fuisse." How can it be *dubium*, when it is certain that Octavianus did no such thing?

Caesar im Orient. Von Walther Judeich. (Leipzig: Brockhaus; London: Trübner.) Herr Judeich's critical survey of the events between August 9, 48, and October 47 B.C., has apparently three aims—the making precise of the dates for the last movements of Pompeius and the journeys and operations of Caesar, the proof that the Caesarean account is not to be received with blind confidence, and the discovery of the original authorities of whom our other authorities made use. In the first of these objects, pursued with great care and discretion, Herr Judeich seems to us very successful; and, wherever anything may turn upon the exact date, future historians will have to take his calculations into account. As to the second point, too, he will have most scholars with him when he says that facts are artfully grouped in the Caesarean version, not simply narrated; that coarse distortions of the facts cannot be shown, but that the account is one-sided and unfair, because the writer knew where to hold his tongue. As to the third point, however, this latest *Quellenforschung* shows the inherent uncertainty of nearly all such enquiries. What one writer sets up to-day with great originality, another writer with great acuteness upsets to-morrow. G. Thouret argued that the common authority of Plutarch and Appian for the Civil Wars was some Greek source, itself resting on the work of Asinius Pollio. Then came O. Basiner, to refute Thouret and show that Plutarch and Appian used Pollio himself; and now Herr Judeich makes short work with Basiner, and declares Thouret to be in the right. The Greek authority used Asinius Pollio and Caesar and Livy's version of facts (probably in

Livy himself), and was most likely no other than Strabo, who is known to have consulted Pollio. This development of Thouret's view is Herr Judeich's own; while he repudiates Thouret's suggestion, followed by H. Grohs, that what Plutarch and Appian used was an extract from Asinius Pollio made by Pollio of Tralles. In the meantime, Mr. Perrin has been putting forward, in the *American Journal of Philology* (No. 19), a suggestion, which was hardly before Herr Judeich, that Appian, making use of Lucan, accepted as facts his rhetorical amplifications.

Die Glaubwürdigkeit des Thukydides geprüft an seiner Darstellung der Belagerung von Plataea. Von H. Müller-Strübing. (Printed separately from Fleckeisen's *Jahrbuch für Class. Philol.*, 1885.) The author of *Aristophanes und die historische Kritik* has written in his own slashing style a sceptical examination of Thucydides's account of the siege of Plataea. Few stories, if he is to be believed, can ever have been written so incorrect in facts and so full of glaring improbabilities. To some extent he has been anticipated by Dr. Manso, Sir George Cox, and Prof. Paley; but his examination brings to light many points unnoticed by them, and some very hard to answer. Why did Archidamus begin by planting a palisade round the town to prevent anyone getting out? (*τοῦ μηδέπει τι ἐξείναι*, Thuc. 2.75.) He had just offered the whole population leave to go, and a sort of rent to live on; and if they chose to steal out now, without having accepted his terms, the town and the district would be his without rent, and he would save the further expense of a siege, a point of no small importance to the Peloponnesians, who were (chap. 77) anxious to avoid outlay. The palisades, too, could not be thrust into the earth, for there is none, but must have been sunk in solid rock. (This may or may not be true now, or true then; but, at all events, Thucydides' story is consistent with itself. The double trench of the Peloponnesians, the earth for their mound, the subterranean gallery of the Plataeans show that digging was, in his opinion, possible, and that earth could be found. But Herr Müller-Strübing is also consistent with himself, and thinks that there can have been no mound because there can have been no earth.) But when the alleged mound was raised against the wall, and the besieged made a hole in the lower part of their wall that they might carry off the earth and so lower the mound, why did not the Peloponnesians, when they had made their way down to this hole, enter the town by it instead of merely choking it with baskets of clay? (To this there are two possible answers. They did not enter because the hole and the approaches were too narrow, just as Titus's soldiers did not enter Jerusalem underground even when they had broken through into the Jews' galleries. Thucydides, again, does not say that the besiegers ever made their way down to the Plataeans' opening. They threw their baskets *ἐς τὸ διρρήσιον*. These words have been variously translated, and they might well mean only the sinking in the centre of the mound caused by the Plataeans' operations. As the Plataeans went on withdrawing earth, the baskets of clay would soon, by the laws of gravitation, find their way to the bottom, where they would stop the hole.) Then the Plataeans took to mining, and, driving a gallery under the mound, began to carry off earth that way. But mining is impossible in the hard limestone of Mount Kithairos; and, if it were possible, how could so many out of the 480 combatants as could be spared and detached for this service baffle the labour of many times their own number of men engaged in collecting and heaping earth? (Thucydides himself says that this difficulty made them despair.) Then the account of the fire tried by the Pelopon-

sians has its own difficulties. There was no space between the wall and the mound, as Thucydides says there was, which could be filled with faggots, for the mound was against the wall. (Could he mean the new, semi-circular, inner wall?) How, again, could they heap faggots up in part of the city as well, seeing that the semi-circular wall, and also the wooden wall placed on the ordinary city wall, were there to prevent them from throwing faggots in or over? Then, when the prodigious fire was lighted, how was it that it did not burn the wooden wall? (Perhaps it did: Thucydides tells us nothing on the subject.) Then as to the circumvallation of the Peloponnesians—a double wall around the town, with a double ditch, buildings between the walls, and a roof with parapet and towers on them—there was no time to build such a piece of work. The expedition was undertaken in the spring; seventy days were spent on the other operations. This only leaves three months (Prof. Paley) or even forty-five to fifty days (Herr Müller-Strübing) for the building, as it was finished by the setting of Arcturus, the autumnal equinox. Further, the walls were of brick, and there is no clay to be got at Plataea. (This the author apparently affirms on the strength of a geological map. Such a map is not bad evidence; but one ought hardly to accept the assurance of anyone who has not been on the spot with this very question in his mind. Unfortunately neither Herr Müller-Strübing nor the present writer has been to Plataea. Is the site certain?) The ground also, he says, is so rough and channelled as to be altogether unfit for the alleged buildings. (Are there no vestiges, no clay-mound, left by the probably sun-dried bricks of the Peloponnesian works?) Where, again, did the plaster come from with which most of the wall was daubed (3.20), and why was it used? How comes it that only one of the trenches at the foot of the walls was, on the night of the escape, full of water? (To this question, which belongs to Sir George Cox, is it impossible to answer that the outer trench received the drainage-water of the immediate neighbourhood, which the double wall kept from penetrating to the inner trench?) The little map which Herr Müller-Strübing has borrowed from Stanhope certainly indicates higher ground to the south and east of the town walls. Other answers might be made too.) When the escaping Plataeans had mounted the wall, some occupied the nearest towers, and began to shoot. But at whom? There was no one on the wall. (There were guards in the towers, as the narrative shows immediately before.) Lastly, how did the Plataeans, after getting up, get down? This seems to be the author's great puzzle, as he states it twice; but it is to be supposed that they drew their ladders up after them, and descended by them on the other side.) It will be seen that some at least of the author's questions are hard to answer, but not all; and we cannot go with him in considering the Plataean episode a good proof or illustration of his theory of Thucydides. In his judgment Thucydides is, though not deceitful, yet not to be believed. He cannot have meant his account of the siege to deceive, since there would be many survivors to refute him; but it is a part of his free, poetic treatment of history. His whole work is a "martialisch-didaktische Epopoe," although he is really not far from being what Dr. Mommsen in his new volume calls Tacitus—"the most unmilitary of all writers." He dwelt on the story of Plataea partly because it could be made exciting and pathetic, partly because it gave him an opportunity to write, in narrative form, an essay on the attack and defence of cities. His "schöpferische Phantasie" has decorated his abstract account of a siege with all possible incidents (often borrowed, even in the very

words, from Herodotus). His readers expected this, and were neither offended nor misled. We have not space here to argue out so large a thesis as this. Sufficient to say that Thucydides's own expressions seem to claim perfect veracity; and that we think that, while Herr Müller-Strübing is doing good service by attacking the excessive Thucydides-worship of some scholars, he will receive more attention and will effect more if his attacks on the historian be of a more moderate character than those made here and in his *Thukydideische Forschungen*.

Das Schaltjahr in der grossen Rechnungs-Urkunde, C. I. A., I., 273. Von Dr. Kubicki. (Ratibor: Riedinger.) The results at which Dr. Kubicki wished to arrive in this little pamphlet of 26 pp. are twofold. First, the Attic year when Pythodoros was archon (Thuc. 2.1.) and when Plataea was surprised, was an ordinary year, not one with an intercalation, though this goes against the theories of Böckh and A. Mommsen. Secondly, the Attic year did not, so far back as 490, begin, as is generally thought, with the month Hekatombaion. Even down to the Peloponnesian War the year began in Thargelion. Not till the archonship of Euktemon at earliest (408 B.C.) did it begin with Hekatombaion. This, he infers partly from C. I. A., iv., 179, a. b., which certainly tells in his favour, partly from the combination of passages in Thucydides (2.1, 2.4, 4.52, 5.19-20); and he claims to be restoring to Thucydides that credit for plainness and accuracy of statement of which people who hold different views about the archonship of Pythodoros, and about that "Plataëdatum" which, as Dr. Kubicki says, is the corner-stone of Thucydidean chronology, would deprive him. Taking Dr. Kubicki's two points separately, we think that the second is, perhaps, certain, at any rate better made out than the first. But, as questions of this sort are always interlocked, the second point, if proved, lends authority to the first. In connexion with his chronological enquiries, he argues that the speech *τεπι τοῦ χορευοῦ* is the work, not of Antiphon the Rhamnusian, but of the Sokratic Antiphon, son Pyrilampos.

NOTES AND NEWS.

MESSRS. LONGMANS hope to publish next autumn the first volume of *A History of the Great Civil War*, by Mr. S. R. Gardiner. The volume will bring the narrative down to November 23, 1644, the day of the King's return to Oxford after the second battle of Newbury, and the relief of Donnington Castle.

MR. F. T. PALGRAVE, the new professor of poetry at Oxford, will deliver his first lecture in the Sheldonian Theatre on Thursday, February 25. He proposes to give a general introduction to the study of poetry.

MR. W. R. S. Ralston has this week received his diploma from the Imperial Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, as corresponding member in the section of Russian language and literature.

THE Committee of University College, London, having granted the Shelley Society the use of the college rooms for its meetings provided they are held on the second Wednesday of the month, the Shelley Society has changed its day of gathering from Tuesday to Wednesday accordingly. Dr. Sellé is setting the choruses of Shelley's *Hellas* to music for the Shelley Society; and, if money can be procured, the society will follow up its performance of the *Cenci*, in May, by a performance of the *Hellas* in November. But to carry this out, the society's present ninety members should be trebled in number.

THE Browning Society has appointed a committee to arrange for lectures on Browning, and recitations from his works, to any audiences in or near London, private or public. Several competent lecturers and reciters have volunteered their help. Application for their services should be made to Mr. E. C. Gonner, 57, Finchley New-road, N.W. Dr. E. Berdoe lately delivered a lecture at the Albert Hall, Windsor, with much acceptance, on "Browning's Message to his Time"; and the Rev. J. S. Jones also lectured on Browning at Highgate. The latest report of the Philadelphia Public Library states that of all the modern English poets, Browning has been lately the most read.

MR. GIFFEN has in preparation a new series of *Essays in Finance*. It will contain several papers which have been published anonymously, or have been read before the Statistical Society, besides some which have not been made public before. The latter include a further discussion of the fall of prices and the alleged contraction of the gold supply. Messrs. Bell will be the publishers.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN will publish immediately a new edition, being the fifth, of Lord Wolseley's *Soldier's Pocket-Book*, revised and enlarged.

FATHER ALBANY CHRISTIE, S.J., formerly Fellow of Oriel, has in the press a devotional poem of about 400 pages, which is being printed at the Manresa press belonging to the Jesuits at Roehampton. It is entitled *The End of Man*, and is based upon the spiritual exercises of St. Ignatius. The argument is that man, who was intended by his Creator to be supremely happy, makes himself miserable by misusing the creatures surrounding him. He recognises his fault, and strives to atone for it by enlisting in his Creator's service and following his Divine leader both in action and suffering. He is rewarded by at last attaining the happiness which was the proper end of his creation.

READERS of *Truth* have frequently inquired why the "Queer Stories" have never been republished in volume form. The proprietors of the paper have at length determined to issue a series of shilling volumes containing selections of these stories, many of which were written by deceased authors, such as Mr. E. C. Grenville Murray and Mr. Hugh Conway. The first volume, which will contain thirteen stories by Mr. Grenville Murray, will be issued early next month by Messrs. Swan Sonnenschein & Co. To avoid confusion between the various numbers of the series, each volume will be bound in a wrapper of a different colour.

MR. PERCY GREG will publish shortly with Mr. John Murray a History of the United States, from the foundation of Virginia to the reconstruction of the Union. It will be in two volumes, with maps.

MR. HENRY T. WHARTON is preparing for the press a second edition of his *Sappho*, which was published last summer. The book ran out of print within a few weeks of publication; and copies are now greatly in demand in America, as well as in this country.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN announce the following new novels: *The Bostonians*, by Mr. Henry James; *A Tale of a Lonely Parish*, by Mr. F. Marion Crawford; *Aunt Rachel*, by Mr. D. Christie Murray—the "rustic sentimental comedy" which is now running in the *English Illustrated*; *A Country Gentleman*, by Mrs. Oliphant; *Chantry House*, by Miss Yonge; and *The Fall of Asgard*, by Julian S. Corbett, who is described as a new writer.

MESSRS. SWAN SONNENSCHEIN & Co. will shortly publish an account of emigrant life in Kansas, written from personal experience by

Mr. Percy Ebbutt, and illustrated by author.

AMONG new novels, Messrs. Swan Sonnenschein & Co. will shortly publish *The Basilisk*, by Messrs. Henry Pottinger Stephens and Warham St. Leger, and *Otway's Child*, by Hope Stanford.

A SECOND edition of *Disestablishment*, by Mr. Henry Richard and Mr. J. Carvell Williams, is announced by Messrs. Swan Sonnenschein & Co.

WE are informed that the forthcoming shilling novelette, by Mrs. Oliphant, entitled *Oliver's Bride*, originally appeared in Messrs. Tilloston & Son's newspaper syndicate, as part of a series of short stories by popular authors.

MR. EGMONT HAKE will deliver a lecture on "Gordon at Khartum" at the Memorial Hall, Blackfriars, on Thursday, February 18, at 8.30 p.m.

THE annual dinner of the "old boys" of University College School will be held at the Holborn Restaurant on Tuesday, February 16, at 7 p.m. Principal Greenwood, of Owens College, will be in the chair; and in the list of vice-presidents are the names of J. Chamberlain, John Morley, Sir F. Leighton, G. Scharf, Hamo Thornycroft, Prof. Michael Foster, Prof. W. E. Ayrton, R. H. Hutton, Ingram Bywater, Sir Barrow Ellis, and Sir Julius Vogel.

IN a Paper read at the Cercle Saint Simon at Paris, and now published with the title *Le Rôle et les Aspirations de la Grèce dans la Question d'Orient*, M. Bikélas states his views, and those which he believes that his countrymen generally entertain with regard to this subject. A considerable part of this essay is devoted to an interesting sketch of the history of the question, and the stages by which it has reached its present position; and this is followed by notices of the various peoples who inhabit the Balkan peninsula and of their claims. Finally, he describes the aspirations of Greece, and states what he considers to be the most satisfactory settlement for the whole of European Turkey. On this question M. Bikélas is excellently fitted to express an opinion, because, while he is thoroughly patriotic, his long residence in England and France has enabled him to regard his countrymen and their cause from the point of view of other nations. He assures us that the grand idea of a Greek empire with Constantinople for its capital, which was so long dominant in the minds of the Greeks, has now passed away, and is no longer regarded either by Greek politicians or by the people at large as within the sphere of practical politics. He even renounces the claim of the Greek kingdom to possess the western shores of Asia Minor and the neighbouring islands, notwithstanding that their population is chiefly composed of Greeks. What the Greeks do claim, he says, is the island of Crete, Epirus, and that part of Macedonia which is inhabited by Greeks, including the peninsula of Chalcidice. Albania he would leave as a separate state, or, if that was thought better, as an independent province attached to Greece. Servia would naturally extend southwards so as to touch the northern Greek frontier, and a united Bulgaria would absorb the districts in its neighbourhood which are occupied by people of that nationality. The Turks, according to his view, would remain in Europe, and would occupy Constantinople and the neighbouring parts of Thrace.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

"Apropos of your paragraph on *Mathias Sandorf*, Jules Verne's last book, may I add that it has appeared in French in book form? I read two volumes in August in the train between Calais and Vienna; the third came out in November."

INDIAN JOTTINGS.

M. JAMES DARMESTETER, Professor of Persian at the Collège de France, started this week for Bombay. He proposes to make a stay of about a year in India, with the object of studying on the spot the religion of the Parsis and the remains of Persian civilisation still to be found in the country. As his departure was hurried at the last, he wishes his many friends in England to know that his address for some little time will be Poste Restante, Bombay.

THE statute for creating an Oriental school at Oxford was discussed in congregation on Tuesday last, when two amendments proposed by Prof. Monier Williams were both rejected. One was that Persian should not be considered a "classical" language in the same sense as Sanskrit and Arabic; the other, by way of an alternative, was that Zead and Pehlvi should be combined with Persian.

MR. H. G. KEENE, who is at present at Oxford helping Prof. Monier Williams to catalogue the library of the Indian Institute, was to deliver a lecture on Thursday of this week on "England as a Mohammedan Power."

DR. BUSTED, the author of *Echoes from Old Calcutta*, has contributed to the *Englishman* of January 9 a letter of no little literary interest. It records his finding, in the old South Street cemetery, the tomb of the Hon. Rose Whittworth Aylmer, who died at Calcutta in 1800, aged twenty. As readers of Landor know, it was this young lady who four years earlier lent him a book which supplied him with the idea of *Gebir*; and it was the news of her death that inspired the beautiful lines—

"Ah, what avails the sceptered race,
Ah, what the form divine!
What every virtue, every grace,
Rose Aylmer, all were thine.

"Rose Aylmer, whom these wakeful eyes
May weep, but never see,
A night of memories and of sighs
I consecrate to thee."

Dr. Busted goes on to point out that Charles Lamb wrote to Landor of these lines:

"Many things I had to say to you which there was not time for: one, why should I forget? 'tis for 'Rose Aylmer,' which has a charm I cannot explain. I lived upon it for weeks."

And, again, Crabbe Robinson wrote to Landor of the same:

"I have just seen Charles and Mary Lamb living in absolute solitude at Enfield. I found your poems lying open before Lamb. Both tipsy and sober, he is even muttering 'Rose Aylmer.'"

Incidentally, Dr. Busted mentions that the tombs of four personages, all associated with the names of Warren Hastings—General Clavering, Justice Hyde, Edward Wheler, and Cleveland—are all in need of repair.

THE Rev. T. Foulkes, chaplain of Coimbatore, has drawn up a very elaborate analysis of all the books published in the Madras Presidency during the year 1884, which has been printed as a Government paper. The total number is 744, of which 106 are in English, 501 in the several vernaculars, 76 in Sanskrit, Arabic, and Persian, and 61 in more than one language. Among the vernaculars, Tamil stands first with 249; then follow Telugu, 126; Malayalam, 65; Canarese, 41; Tulu, 1; Konkani, 3; Uriya, 2; and Hindustani, 14. Classified according to subject, 374 were religious, and 189 educational; the next largest classes being poetry, 59; drama, 21; science, 18; law, 16; and fiction, language, and medicine, each 14. The total number of copies printed was 1,379,970; the average size of an edition was from 550 to 1,000 copies; the average price of each book was just elevenpence, so that an entire set of Madras publications for one year might be bought for £30. Of the total number of books, 531 were

issued in the city of Madras, and 213 outside, the provincial towns with the greatest publishing activity being Mangalore, 57; Tellicherry, 50; and Cochin, 17—all three on the Malabar or western coast. This is explained by the existence of a well-known mission press at Mangalore, and by a wave of religious fervour among the Mopla community of Mohammedans.

SONNETS.

A PROTEST.

I.

LET no man charge thee, woman if thou art,
And therefore pitiful, to veil thine eyes
From any naked truth whereof the cries
Reveal the anguish. Woman to the heart—
There be foul shames which for thy purer part
Are seen through bleeding wounds in purple
guise,

And at their aspect, showing in such wise,
No whitest angel of God's throne would start.
And more; if it be true that life terrene,
Mocking our hope, admits a depth obscene,
Wherein lost souls must fall to mend our ways,
Feed full that gulf of hell which is man's lust,
But rob not those its devotees; be just:
Cheer its frail victims; give its martyrs praise!

II.

Sweet Christ! That there be men in virtue's name
And thine, would levy on thy poor, a toll—
Each item of the sum a living soul—
To drop in stygian gloom of sin and shame.
Lost, vainly lost ones! If of our fair fame,
Our woman's peace and purity, the whole
Fierce chastisement is laid on you—your dole
Brands our white brows with more than equal
blame.

From such salvation, feebly in despair
Might women sigh for cloistered days, who dare
Not walk without such guardians of the night!
Still vain! God help us only to allay
The torments of these damned, until we may
Pluck from the rose of innocence this blight.

III.

And ye, who throned it still, and reign in right
Of this foul wrong; you who from thought would
spurn
Your hapless hostages; how do you earn
The service you so hardly would requite?
Have you emerged like stars from some dark night
Of ignorance, or compassed a return
From sin foredoomed? Say, have we ought to
learn
From you of deadly hunger's conquered might?
Not so; on simpler plea your titles rest.
Enough: some lives ascend while some go down;
And you who ride upon the waves' high crest,
Whose thoughts are narrowed by your unearned
crown,

How should it irk you if the partial frown
Of God or devil cursed whom Jesus blest?

EMILY PFEIFFER.

MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

IT is unnecessary in the ACADEMY to do more than give a hearty welcome to the new *English Historical Review* (Longmans). The comprehensiveness to be attached to the term "history" is shown not only in the prefatory note, but also by the character of the articles in the first number. Lord Acton writes, as no other man could, on "German Schools of History," illuminating the subject with personal allusions, and explaining it with constant references to contemporary philosophy and politics. Mr. D. B. Monro collects the internal evidence that tends to disprove the tradition that "Homer" was an Asiatic, and not a European, Greek. Prof. Freeman writes with his old vigour on a new subject—the so-called "tyrants" in Western Europe in the early years of the fifth century A.D. Prof. Seeley insists upon the importance of the "Family Compact" as furnishing the clue to the diplomacy and the

wars of Europe from 1733 onwards, and as explaining the "bourbonisation" of the Continent. "A," whose hand we seem to have met with before in the *Edinburgh*, and who has been identified with an aged Whig peer, throws a vivid light from unpublished letters upon the ministerial crisis of December, 1845. The number concludes with some short notices of original documents, reviews of books (including Schrader's *Cuneiform Inscriptions and the Old Testament*), a list of recent historical books classified according to subjects, and a critical summary of the contents of periodicals classified according to countries.

IN the current number of *Mind*, Mr. J. Dewy writes ingeniously on the psychological standpoint. According to him, the weakness of English philosophy is not that it keeps to this standpoint, but that it so often unknowingly deserts it. He defines the psychological standpoint by saying that nothing is to be admitted into philosophy which does not show itself in experience, and that its place in experience is to be fixed by an account of the process of knowledge—that is, by psychology. But it soon becomes evident that the writer means by this process not a series of mental events in individual minds, but the common organised experience which constitutes objective knowledge. And, this being so, it does not seem that his contention comes to much; for Hume and Kant agree that we have to get our philosophy out of our experience, properly investigated and interpreted; and, judged by Mr. Dewy's conception of psychology, Hegel is at the head of the psychologists. Waiving the question of terms, however, one may cordially approve of the general aim and method of the essay. The writer is specially at his ease in dealing with the weak places in the armour of Subjective Idealism. Next to this essay comes an interesting account, by Prof. K. Pearson, of Meister Eckehart, the chief of the fourteenth century mystics. Eckehart and Wyclif, two of the most characteristic thinkers of that age, were both the result of the Averroistic teaching which dominated at the time at Paris and at Oxford. The relation of Eckehart's doctrine to that of his master is illustrated at length, and points of contact between the systems of Eckehart and Spinoza clearly indicated. In a third essay, Mr. W. Mitchell claims for the idea of Moral Obligation the function of "first determiner" in the science of ethics. It is impossible, according to this writer, to derive "oughtness" from "rightness." Hence we have not, as is commonly supposed, first of all to determine the end or ideal of action, and then settle our theory of obligation by a reference to this; but conversely to determine our end through obligation, asking what the characteristics of the end must be by reason of this determination. The discussion of some of the leading ideals of ethics in England by help of this criterion is instructive and suggestive. Among the remaining contents of the number reference may be made to a well-argued plea for a Society of Experimental Psychology by Mr. J. Jacobs, and to an account of some later researches of the diligent workers in the psychophysical laboratory, Johns Hopkins University. Among other curious results of these investigations may be mentioned the fact that a person takes just twice as long to read a non-significant series of letters or words, as a significant series. Last, but not least, the present number gives the readers of the journal the boon of a well-executed index, covering the contents of the ten years of its history (1876-1885).

IN the *Theologisch Tijdschrift* for January Dr. C. P. Tielemans (so well known by his researches into mythology and the history of religious beliefs) gives a criticism of Mr. Andrew Lang's

Custom and Myth, coupled with a specimen of his own more scientific, but not radically opposed, mythological method. The myth which he selects for the application of his test is that of Kronos, and we commend his very thorough specimen of a truly comparative and historical method to English students. The subject of another article is equally attractive to some of us at this time. Dr. Völter, author of a work on the origin of the Apocalypse (the second edition of which is reviewed in this same number), communicates his solution of the Ignatius-problem, which consists in denying the genuineness of the Epistle to the Romans, but of this alone among the Ignatian Epistles. Dr. Völter is at home in the history of the subject, but dated his paper in November 1885. Dr. Loman reopens the discussion of fundamental questions relative to the Pauline Epistles. Dr. Hugenholtz and Dr. Scheffer, representing different points of view among liberal theologians, continue the great debate, so seriously taken up in Holland, on the relation of religion to moral ideas, to philosophy, and to ethnology and anthropology. It is difficult in a few lines to give an adequate idea of the variety and interest of this organ of the Dutch advanced theologians.

SELECTED FOREIGN BOOKS.

GENERAL LITERATURE.

BALUFFE, A. *Molière inconnu*: sa Vie. T. 1. 1822-1846. Paris: Didier. 3 fr. 50 c.

BIRÉ, E. *Victor de La Prade, sa Vie et ses Œuvres*. Paris: Didier. 3 fr. 50 c.

BOUQUIN, A. *Le Panthéisme dans les Védas*. Paris: Fischbacher. 6 fr.

CASTELVETRO, L. *Sposizione di, a XXIX Canti dell'Inferno Dantesco, ora per la prima volta data in luogo da G. Francesco*. Verona: Münster. 25 fr.

CLARETIE, J. *La Vie à Paris, 1885*. Paris: Victor Havard. 3 fr. 50 c.

HISTORY.

AUMALE, le Due d'. *Histoire des Princes de Condé pendant les 16^e et 17^e siècles*. T. 3 et 4. Paris: Calmann Lévy. 15 fr.

EWALD, A. L. *Die Eroberung Preußens durch die Deutschen*. 4. Buch. Halle: Waisenhaus. 6 M.

FORNERON, H. *Louise de Kéroualle, Duchesse de Portsmouth (1649-1734)*. Paris: Plon. 3 fr. 50 c.

THURAU-DANGIN, P. *Histoire de la monarchie de Juillet*. T. 3. Paris: Plon. 8 fr.

PHILOSOPHY.

RHOUVIER, Ch. *Esquisse d'une classification systématique des doctrines philosophiques*. Paris: Fischbacher. 15 fr.

PHILOLOGY, ETC.

BERGK, Th. *Kleine philologische Schriften*. Hrsg. v. R. Peppmüller. 2. Bd. Zur griechischen Literatur. Halle: Waisenhaus. 12 M.

BOETTIGHER, G. *Das Hohelied vom Rittertum, e. Beleuchtung d. Parzival nach Wolframs eigenen Andeutungen*. Berlin: Mayer & Müller. 2 M. 40 Pf.

CORPUS INSCRIPTIONUM SEMITICARUM. *Pars prima, inscriptions Phoenicianas continens*. T. 1. Fasc. 3. Paris: Imp. Nat.

JOSEPHI, Flavi. *opera*. Ed. B. Niese. Vol. 2. Berlin: Weidmann. 12 M.

MAHN, C. F. A. *Die epische Poesie der Provenzalen*. 1. Th. 3. Lit. Berlin: Dümmler. 1 M. 50 Pf.

OLEKET, K. *Rätsel u. Gesellschaftsspiele der alten Griechen*. Berlin: Mayer & Müller. 5 M.

STORCH, Th. *Angelsächsische Nominalcomposita*. Stralsburg: Trübner. 1 M. 50 Pf.

TEGGE, Studien zur lateinischen Synonymik. Ein Beitrag zur Methodik d. Gymnasialunterrichts. Berlin: Weidmann. 10 M.

CORRESPONDENCE.

AN ENGLISH SCHOOL AT OXFORD.

London: Jan. 30, 1886.

The questions—Why is there no school of English at Oxford? Why is nothing done with the Taylor Institute? Why is money wasted? Why are there two professors of Anglo-Saxon and two professors of comparative philology, while there is no professor of English literature, modern philology, or Old-French?—may well seem insoluble to an outsider. A sincere insider has his answer ready, and that answer is—a word which will involuntarily rise to the lips of all my Oxford readers.

All outsiders who wish to realise how affairs are managed under the surface at Oxford should read Mark Pattison's *Memoirs*, and especially the circumstantial account of the intrigues connected with the election to the rectorship of Lincoln (p. 271 foll.). It is true that all this happened thirty-five years ago, and since then Oxford has changed—in some respects for the better; but, however antiquated the details of the picture may be, its general spirit is still true to nature. The very phrases quoted by Pattison have a familiar ring about them—"Your election would not be desirable on your own account or on that of the college," and "The personal feeling which exists against you in the university"—these are phrases which in skilful hands may still decide the fate of elections.

There is, indeed, reason to fear that university appointments are still too often decided by personal influence, instead of a due consideration of the real interests of the university. It is, at any rate, quite certain that the reformers, although by no means an inconsiderable body, have often been defeated by a ring of gentlemen whom, to avoid a harsher epithet, we may call "diplomatists." The reformers certainly have to carry on the struggle under great disadvantages. They are busy men, being mostly ill-paid, and are consequently ill-organised, and, holding only subordinate posts, have no votes and little social influence. Their adversaries, on the other hand, are already in possession of the main points of vantage; and, being mostly well-endowed sinecure-holders, are able to devote the whole of their time to the neglect of their duties and the promotion of diplomacy.

It cannot, however, be denied that the honest men themselves are partly responsible for the present state of things. They are too scrupulous, too timid, and, above all, too afraid of speaking out. There is often a considerable flutter in the university before some piece of diplomacy, which, perhaps, is denounced as too gross and barefaced ever to succeed. But when it has succeeded, people simply shrug their shoulders and submit to the inevitable, for it would be bad taste to expose it, which, besides, might hurt the feelings of university dignitaries—a policy which, of course, only adds fuel to the fire.

But, after all, there are signs of improvement. The diplomats have been more than once defeated in a stand-up fight; and it is another sign of their diminished power and prestige that of late years diplomacy has been more negative than positive: that is, they have had to content themselves with keeping out a reformer by thrusting some dummy into his place. This means, of course, that they are now compelled to act on the defensive, instead of carrying everything before them, as in the dear old Tractarian days. The numerous cases in which, of late years, unknown and insignificant young men have been installed in prominent university posts are nearly all due to this "negative diplomacy."

This naturally leads me to say something about a recent transaction, which not only has the closest connexion with the subject of these letters, but also exemplifies many of the abuses they criticise—I mean, of course, the election to the Merton professorship of English language and literature. Even without these reasons I should feel bound to do so, for I have myself unwittingly misled the public by my letter in the ACADEMY of June 13 of last year, in which I gave the electors credit for a line of conduct which it is now tolerably certain they did not pursue.

Still more misleading is the anonymous account of the election in the ACADEMY of June 6 of last year. We are there told that the electors first settled, "irrespective of can-

dicates," what sort of man they wanted, and then impartially chose the man who best fulfilled these conditions. Of course to a superficial observer this plan would seem not only the most creditable and satisfactory in its results, but also the easiest; but it happens to be one which, for a variety of very good reasons, is rarely adopted at Oxford, and least of all was it adopted in the present case. The statement that Prof. Napier was chosen "on account of the fact guaranteed by Bishop Stubbs, that 'his success as a teacher has been as great as his distinction as a scholar'" is puzzling; for how could Bishop Stubbs in England guarantee Prof. Napier's teaching in Germany of a subject on which the bishop is not an authority? Still more extraordinary is the statement that Prof. Napier's Wulfstan dissertation procured him his Göttingen professorship. This could not be maintained for a moment by anyone who has read the dissertation in question, and knows anything of German universities. It is, besides, perfectly well known in Germany that Prof. Napier owed his success partly to his being an Englishman, but mainly to the energetic intervention of his teacher and patron, Prof. Zupitz.

The first to break the conspiracy of silence and condonation was the anonymous writer of "A Joke or a Job?" in the *Fortnightly Review* of July last, who, in spite of the unimpartial and personal tone of his remarks, certainly deserves our gratitude for the first approach to a correct statement that has yet appeared. His view is, briefly, that, of the five electors, Messrs. Nicholson and Bond were dummies; that the Warden of Merton was not much more; and that, in short, the "grand elector" was Prof. Freeman, who backed the successful candidate out of pure spite against literature and its representatives. He sums up by saying that

"to elect a student of Anglo-Saxon to a chair of literature at Oxford seems more like a joke than a job; but, on the other hand, to elect a student of Anglo-Saxon to a chair of literature for which a professor of Anglo-Saxon was a candidate, seems more like a job than a joke,"

adding, "whether the election be a joke or a job, it is most assuredly a scandal." This summary certainly expressed the general feeling of disappointment and dissatisfaction caused in Oxford by the result of the election.

I will now give my version, in the hope that someone else will supersede it with a still more accurate one. In the first place, the "grand elector" was not Prof. Freeman. Prof. Freeman is obstinate and pugnacious enough in the defence of his own personal friends and his own peculiar views of history; but he is no match for a consummate diplomatist like Prof. Max Müller. It is to the personal influence of the professor of comparative philology that Prof. Napier owes his success. Prof. Zupitz also canvassed very actively on behalf of his favourite pupil. Under Prof. Müller's guidance the electors very sensibly resolved that, above all things, they would not have a mere repetition of the existing professor of Anglo-Saxon. The professorship was first offered to the well-known American light literary critic, Mr. J. R. Lowell, or, at any rate, he was sounded on the subject. As we see, he declined the dubious honour. After a severe struggle, Prof. Freeman backing first his friend, Prof. Earle, and then another younger friend of his own, Prof. Napier was unanimously elected.

The best commentary on the proceedings of the electors will be a plain statement of what they ought to have done. Their first duty was to settle definitely whether the founders of the professorship wanted a language or a literature man. This settled, they were bound, in common honesty towards the candidates, to issue a public notice of the result of their delibera-

tions. This ought strictly to have been done at the very beginning; but there was still time after the appearance of Prof. Skeat's letter in the ACADEMY, in which he showed the absurdity of expecting to find a professor capable of commanding both language and literature. If this had been done, and if, as a further precaution against underhand dealing, the list of candidates had been published, the election of Prof. Napier would have been practically impossible, whether language or literature was made to predominate. As it is, the result of the election has been to confirm my belief that no honest and independent scholar has much chance of a university appointment except by bargaining directly or indirectly with the chiefs of the diplomatic party and accepting their terms. I must add that in saying this I do not mean to cast the slightest imputation on Prof. Napier himself, who, has, I believe, been simply used as a tool by others.

The obvious remedy is that the elections should be put into the hands of competent and responsible electors—that is, that they should be put into the hands of special boards of studies. There ought, for instance, to be a board of English studies, composed only of men actively engaged in promoting the study of English either by teaching or research.

This would necessarily involve the abolition of the present system of allowing professors to do their work by deputy. It is intolerable that such sinecure-holders should have votes, while their deputies, who do all the work, are excluded from the control of university affairs. Thus, one of the electors to the Merton professorship is the professor of comparative philology. But there are two professors of comparative philology—which of them ought to act as elector? Clearly the one who does the work, the deputy, Prof. Sayce, not the absentee, Prof. Müller. If a professor is unwilling or unable to fulfil the duties of his position, let him resign, not only his duties, but also his emoluments and vote, which belong of right to his successor. This, of course, does not in any way preclude the university from pensioning him, or giving him (of course with proper guarantees) a travelling or research fellowship.

One of the greatest general safeguards against abuses is, of course, publicity. Every new scheme, every new appointment, should be made generally known from the beginning, not only in the university, but in the world at large, so as to secure as much free discussion as possible. If two or three honest and energetic men in the university were to constitute themselves into a vigilance committee, and pledge themselves ruthlessly to expose every piece of underhand diplomacy that comes under their notice, it would be a great step. There is nothing your obstructive dreads more than a letter to the *Times*. It would be also a step towards forming a healthier public opinion among the rising generation, who should be taught that jobbery, so far from being a mere subject of joke, is unpardonable treason against all true university interests, which, when clearly brought home to the offender, should be punished by summary expulsion from the university.

HENRY SWEET.

FORTESCUE'S "THE GOVERNANCE OF ENGLAND."

Oxford: Jan. 28, 1886.

I cannot be too grateful to Mr. Gairdner for the generous way in which he has welcomed my incursion into a domain which he has made peculiarly his own. There is, however, one point of detail raised by him in the course of his review on which I cannot help thinking that

he is mistaken. With reference to Fortescue's scheme for the reorganisation of the Privy Council, he says: "Nor does he think of looking below the aristocracy in the selection of the king's advisers. A permanent body of twenty-four, or perhaps of sixteen councillors—one half of them spiritual lords and one half temporal—was to be the basis," &c.

Now it has always seemed to me that Fortescue intended "the basis" of his reformed council to consist of commoners. In chap. xv. (p. 146 of my edition), he says:

"First, that ther were chosen xii spirituell men and xii temporell men, off the wysest and best disposed men that can be founed in all the parties off this lande. . . . And that everye yere be chosen be the kyng iiii lordes spirituell and iiii lordes temporal," &c.

where it seems to me that *men* and *lordes* are intended to be distinguished. It is the same in the memorial of 1470 (Appendix B, pp. 349 f.):

"A counsell of spirituel *men* xii, and of temporel *men* xii, of the mooste wise and indifferente . . . in alle the londe. And that ther be chosen to theyme yerly iiii *lordis* spirituelx, and iiii *lordis* temporelx," &c.

Again, in the same place, speaking of the attendance in the council of the great officers and judges, he says that they may come "whan the seyde xxiiii" and viiith lordis will desire them." Had he intended all the councillors to be peers, he would surely have said "whan the seyde xxxii lordis," &c. Moreover, the contrast which Fortescue draws between his reformed council and "the olde counsell . . . which was mooste of grete lordis," is, I think, conclusive. The point, though one of detail, is not unimportant; because, as I have maintained, both in my introduction and in the notes (pp. 31, 295-6), this proposed transformation of the royal council from an aristocratic to an almost purely official body is one of the most striking of the points in which Fortescue anticipates the system of "the New Monarchy."

CHARLES PLUMMER.

THE FIRST EDITION OF "THE VICAR OF WAKEFIELD."

London: Feb. 2, 1896.

The following particulars will answer the question, raised in the ACADEMY of last week, concerning the printer's blunder at the foot of p. 14 of the first edition of the *Vicar of Wakefield*. The last eight lines on p. 14 are as follows:

It was managed with proper spirit on both sides: he asserted that I was heterodox, I retorted the charge: he replied, and I rejoined. In the mean time, while the controversy was hottest, I was called out by one of my relations, who, with a face of concern, advised me to give up the dispute, and allow the old gentleman to be a

hus-

The first six lines of p. 15 are as follows:

THE VICAR OF WAKEFIELD.

15

if he could, at least till my son's wedding was over. "How," cried I, "relinquish the cause of truth, and let him be an hus-

" band, already driven to the very verge of absurdity. You might as well advise me to give up my fortune as my argument."

The blunder was evidently soon detected, as it is rectified in the second edition (published in the same year as the first); and the text runs as in the second through the third, fourth, and following issues. The corrected text in the second edition reads thus:

"I was called out by one of my relations, who, with a face of concern, advised me to give up the dispute, at least till my son's wedding was over. 'How,' cried I, 'relinquish the cause of truth, and let him be an husband, already driven to the very verge of absurdity?'"

The difference is: "and allow the old gentleman to be a hus—if he could."

This unfinished expression was probably marked to be shifted, by the author, from the first sentence to the second in a changed form, and must either have been left unerased by Goldsmith in the former and so have been set up; or, if it were erased, the correction was passed over by the printer, and so the allusion to letting "the old gentleman be a husband" occurred in both places.

It would be very interesting to know exactly how the MS. ran; if any of your readers can tell where it is, the cause of the error could be settled more precisely. ELLIOT STOCK.

[In order to enforce his statement, Mr. Elliot Stock has sent electrotype blocks, reproduced by photography, containing the passages quoted above from pp. 14 and 15 of the original edition. Unfortunately, we are unable to make use of these blocks, partly because they are too wide for our columns, and still more because they would not endure satisfactorily the rough processes of newspaper printing. We have, therefore, done the best we can to represent the original. The argument does not seem to us to be affected by the absence of the blocks. It was evidently a printer's blunder, to which we still think that the editor of the facsimile ought to have called attention.—ED. ACADEMY.]

THE ETYMOLOGY OF "CATCHPOLE."

Berlin, S.W., Kleinebeerenstr. 7: Jan. 30, 1886.

Turning to p. 325 of the ACADEMY for November 14, 1885, Mr. Mayhew will see that the alteration of the Old-English gloss *kecewol* to *kecpol*, proposed by him in your issue of January 23, is not new to your readers. As to the etymology of *catchpole*, there can, of course, be no doubt of its first part being to *catch*, Low-Latin *caceare* = "captiare"; but the second, I am, is Latin *pullus*, Provençal *pol-s* (cf. French *poule* = *pulla*), and I am happy to say that the same derivation has suggested itself also to my colleague, A. Tobler. Fowl being, in the Middle Ages, a very conspicuous item among the rents in kind, it seems natural enough to assume that a collector of rents was called a "fowl-catcher" as a nickname, and that this nickname, its origin growing obscure, at last ceased to be felt as such. Cf. *hühner vogt* in Grimm 4, 2, 1882, "an officer that receives fowl given as rent, also one that keeps a register of bondmen." JULIUS ZUPITZA.

APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY, Feb. 8, 5 p.m. London Institution: "Charles Darwin and his Theory," II., by Prof. E. Ray Lankester.

TUESDAY. Royal Academy: "Bas-Relief in Rome," by Mr. A. S. Murray.

WEDNESDAY. Society of Arts: Cawton Lecture, "Fiction," IV., by Prof. H. S. Hale Shaw.

THURSDAY. Aristotelian: "Cause and Personality," by the Rev. E. P. Scrymgour.

8.30 p.m. Geographical: "A Sketch of the Physical Geography of Brazil," by Mr. J. W. Wells.

TUESDAY, Feb. 9, 3 p.m. Royal Institution: "Naukratis," III., by Mr. R. S. Poole.

8 p.m. Civil Engineers: "The Injurious Effect of Blue Heat on Steel and Iron," by Mr. C. E. Stromeyer.

8 p.m. Colonial Institute: "Telegraphic Enterprise in Australia," by Mr. C. Todd.

8.30 p.m. Anthropological Institute: Exhibition of Anthropometric Instruments made by the Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company, by Mr. Horace Darwin; "Recent Designs for Anthropometric Instruments," by Mr. F. Galton; "A Skull from an Ancient Burlying Ground in Kamtschatka," by Prof. A. Macalister; "The Cephalic Index," by Dr. J. G. Garson.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 10, 8 p.m. Society of Arts: "Mining Industry at the Buda-Pest Exhibition," by Mr. B. H. Brough.

8 p.m. Microscopical: Annual Meeting; Presidential Address by the Rev. Dr. Dallinger.

8 p.m. Geological: "A New Species of *Psilotites* from the Lanarkshire Coalfield," by Mr. R. Kidston; "The Melbourne Rock and the Zone of *Belemnites* from the Cambridge to the Chilton Hills," by Messrs. W. Hill and A. J. Jukes-Brownie; "The Beds between the Upper and Lower Chalk of Dover, and their Comparison with the Middle Chalk of Cambridge-shire," by Mr. W. Hill.

THURSDAY, Feb. 11, 3 p.m. Royal Institution: "Metals as affected by Small Quantities of Impurity," III., by Prof. W. Chandler Roberts-Austen.

4.30 p.m. Royal Society.

7 p.m. London Institution: "Travelling, from the Days of Elizabeth," by Mr. F. Gale.

8 p.m. Royal Academy: "The School of Pastiche in Rome," by Mr. A. S. Murray.

8 p.m. Mathematical: "Note on the Functions $Z(x, \Theta(x, a))$," by the President.

8 p.m. Telegraph Engineers: Discussion; "Self-Induction of an Electric Current in Relation to the Nature and Form of its Conductor," by Prof. D. E. Hughes.

8.30 p.m. Antiquaries.

FRIDAY, Feb. 12, 7.30 p.m. Civil Engineers: Students' Meeting: "Gold-Mining in the Wynad," by Mr. A. S. B. Oakley.

8 p.m. New Shakspere: "William Herbert and Mary Fenton in Connexion with Shakspere's Sonnets," by the Rev. W. A. Harrison; "The Play of Pericles," by Mr. P. Z. Round.

9 p.m. Royal Institution: "Experiments showing Dilatancy, a Property of Granular Material, possibly connected with Gravitation," by Prof. Osborne Reynolds.

SATURDAY, Feb. 13, 3 p.m. Royal Institution: "The History of Volcanic Action in the British Isles," III., by Dr. Geikie.

3 p.m. Physical: Annual General Meeting; "Experimental Error in Calorimetric Work" and "Delicate Calorimetric Thermometers," by Prof. U. S. Pickering.

3.45 p.m. Botanic.

SCIENCE.

MATHEMATICAL BOOKS.

A Treatise on Differential Equations. By A. R. Forsyth. (Macmillan.) We have looked forward with interest to the perusal, and, possibly, should time and other circumstances allow, to the study, of this treatise; and our expectation on a first reading has not been disappointed. Mr. Forsyth has produced a text-book which, in our opinion, is destined to take the place of Boole's able treatise (and supplementary volume) and to bring credit to the university of which the author was an already distinguished alumnus. All English treatises subsequent to Boole's must own a measure of indebtedness to it; but Mr. Forsyth, too, has done what Boole did; *i.e.*, he has consulted very large number of English and foreign memoirs at first-hand. The work is one which takes up high ground, and so is not an elementary treatise. It is written more in the Continental manner and not in the old Cambridge manual style, with detached pieces of carefully indicated bookwork for the student to reproduce at examinations. This style renders the book pleasanter reading, and the effect as a literary piece of work is enhanced. Though treating with skill of a fairly large portion of the field, Mr. Forsyth has left some portions untouched; and these he hopes to discuss in a supplementary volume. He gives the following statement of the parts he has omitted to take up in the volume before us: the investigations of Fuchs on the integration of linear differential equations, those of Königsberger on the irreducibility of such equations, the discussion of Pfaff's equation,

the recent researches of Hermite and Halphen, and the geometrical applications of the hypergeometric series by Klein. No indication is given of the methods of Cauchy, Lie, and Mayer; and only a slight sketch is given of Jacobi's method for partial differential equations. Ample material is, however, afforded, and practice in exercises is furnished by a selection of some 800 examples from memoirs, and college and university papers. There is but one erratum printed; and, unusual as such a statement is to make, we have detected but two in the course of our perusal. It does not follow that there are no further errors in the text or in the exercises and the answers thereto. There is an excellent "Contents" and a sufficiently full "Index."

A Treatise on the Calculus of Variations. By L. B. Carll. (Macmillan.) This work, which has been before American mathematicians since August, 1881, is now deservedly published in this country. There is no plethora of treatises on the subject, though numerous papers are to be met with in the journals. The last English-written treatise is that by Prof. Jellett, which appeared in 1850. Of it, Todhunter writes in his *History* that it

"constitutes the only complete treatise on the Calculus of Variations in the English language, and will necessarily be studied by all who wish to pass beyond the rudiments of the subject."

But this last work can now no longer be looked upon as complete, for since its publication important contributions have been made by Hesse, Moigno, Lindelöf, and Todhunter. Further, as Mr. Carll remarks, Jellett had not read the memoirs of Sarrus and Cauchy relating to multiple integrals. The present work is divided into five chapters, the first four of which are concerned with appropriate matter, clearly arranged; and the fifth gives a brief historical sketch of the rise and progress of the subject, there being little to add to Todhunter's classical treatise cited above, which has furnished most of Mr. Carll's information—an indebtedness suitably acknowledged. Our best plan is to state what has been the author's aim:

"When a new principle is to be introduced for the first time, a simple problem involving it is first produced, and the principle is established when required in the discussion of this problem. This having been followed by other problems of the same class, the general theory of the subject is finally given and illustrated by one or two of the most difficult problems obtainable; after which another principle is introduced in like manner."

About seventy problems are thus discussed. Great pains have been taken to consult the various authorities at first-hand; but in many cases this has been impossible. We trust that Mr. Carll's labour will meet with appreciation from the limited public who take an interest in this not elementary subject. The book is exceedingly well printed and got up.

A Text-Book on the Method of Least Squares. By Mansfield Merriman. (Macmillan.) This is a much enlarged and altogether recast form of the *Elements of the Method of Least Squares* which was published in 1877. It is, so far as we know, the only text-book in English on the subject, and well meets the wants of such students as require to be familiar with its processes and results; for it is evidently compiled by one who has made himself master of this branch of mathematics. Chapter I. is devoted to an introduction to the subject; Chapter II. discusses the law of probability of error; Chapter III. treats of the adjustment of observations; Chapter IV. of the precision of observations; Chapter V. is concerned with direct observation of a single quantity; Chapter VI. with functions of observed quantities; Chapter VII. with independent observations on several quantities; Chapter VIII. with conditioned observations; and Chapter IX. with the dis-

cussion of observations. To each chapter are appended suitable problems for exercise. Chapter X. is made up of an appendix and tables. There is an article here on the history and literature. As might be expected, this adds little to the author's very full list of writings relating to the method of least squares which he published in 1877, in the *Transactions of the Connecticut Academy*. In this article he classifies the memoirs, &c., thus—from 1805 to 1814 inclusive, there are 18 titles of books, &c., and so on through successive decades, in each period the number of works gradually increasing, until, in the period from 1865 to 1874 inclusive, there are 95 titles. The several writings are in eight languages—Germany contributing 153, France 78, Great Britain 56, the United States 34, out of the grand total of 408. For works issued since 1876 reference must be made to the *Jahrbuch über die Fortschritte der Mathematik*. This monograph we commend to civil engineers "who have not had the benefit of extended mathematical training," and to others.

Curve Tracing in Cartesian Co-ordinates. By W. W. Johnson. (New York: Wiley.) The only other recent work we have examined on this branch of mathematics is Dr. Frost's Elementary Treatise (1872). The present work is a mere bantling in size compared with its predecessor. Its range, too, is circumscribed; the methods are algebraic, the reader being assumed to be unacquainted with the calculus. Dr. Frost thus apologised for writing his treatise:

"Having a distinct feeling of the absolute necessity of developing skill and power—I will not add cunning—and, at the same time, being perfectly sensible in what dry places the poor spirit of a student has been condemned to wander in the performance of his duty, I have selected the subject of this work in order to relieve him in the dull work involved in his preparation for climbing heights, by taking him along a very pleasant path, on which he may exercise in an agreeable way all his mathematical limbs, and, if he keeps his eyes open, may see a variety of things which it will be useful to have observed when his real work begins."

With such high authority we confidently commend this small work as suitable for introduction into use among our sixth form boys, as being well adapted in its measure and degree to fulfil the object put forward in Dr. Frost's remarks. There are five chapters, furnished with sufficient store of examples, and a few illustrative figures. English students can, we believe, obtain the book from Messrs. Macmillan.

A Practical Arithmetic on an entirely New Method. By J. Jackson. (Blackie.) This excellent manual eminently merits its title of *practical*. It has no prolix operations, no subtraction and proportion. In place of these it has complementary addition, and an easy rule to supersede the rule of proportion. There are numerous tables of interest, powers, primes, logarithms, &c., and, further, a useful perpetual calendar (to 1925), wherewith ingenious (and ingenuous it maybe) youths can readily ascertain on what day of the week they, and others more illustrious than themselves, entered this sphere of existence. We say, with confidence, that the work is well adapted for boys preparing for a "mercantile career." There is an ample store of examination and miscellaneous questions.

Principles of Arithmetic. By Homersham Cox. (Cambridge: Deighton, Bell & Co.) A capital book for teachers, treating of the principles of the subject, and utterly eschewing all mercantile applications. Mr. Cox has carefully studied the best authorities, such as Cantor (*Geschichte der Mathematik*), Hankel (*Vorlesungen über die Geschichte der Mathematik*),

Nesselmann (*Algebra der Griechen*), and especially Auguste Comte (the *Synthèse subjective*, and others of his works). The subject is worked out in considerable detail, and is put forth in such a fashion as to be specially useful to teachers who have to introduce young pupils to the first rudiments. It goes much beyond this; but the above appears to us to be one of its chief merits. The usefulness of the book is somewhat marred by the absence of a "Contents," and of an "Index," one or other of which, if not both, would have added much to its value.

An Introduction to the Differential and Integral Calculus; with Examples of Application to Mechanical Problems. By W. J. Millar. (Blackie.) There is, we presume, at the present time a demand for some such elementary exposition of the calculus. We recently noticed in these columns a somewhat similar work by Mr. Knox. We think Mr. Millar has been more successful in his attempt, though there are portions in his book which are not altogether satisfactory, viz., on p. 12. In finding the differential co-efficient of a quotient he should not have considered such an expression as $\frac{xy}{y}$ but $\frac{xy}{x}$. We are, however, favourably impressed with what the author has done; and have little doubt that his book will be helpful to engineering and mechanical students who have not the time nor perhaps the mathematical ability for advancing further into the subject. The applications are to areas of surfaces, to the conic sections, binomial theorem, centres of figure, volumes, natural sines and hyperbolic logarithms. A summary of the views which have been published regarding the nature of the calculus closes the volume, prominence being deservedly given to De Morgan's views.

Solutions of Weekly Problem Papers. By the Rev. J. J. Milne. (Macmillan.) This very useful book is the redemption of the promise made by the compiler of the "Weekly Problems" in his preface to that work. We have always considered such collections of answers to be exceedingly useful for junior students; and their publication also saves private tutors and mathematical masters time, which in many cases, they cannot afford for the "10-minute conundrums." The favourable impression of the "problem papers," which we had formed at the time of writing our notice for the ACADEMY, has been confirmed since, while we have worked with pupils some seventy sets of them. There is great variety in the collection, and we have found it to be very fairly representative of the kind of questions which students will have to grapple with on entrance at Cambridge. The present work, without the employment of diagrams, gives clear, and, in very many cases, elegant solutions of the problems. Mr. Milne is liberal, and often submits alternative proofs to his readers. Very many questions were taken from the Tripos papers of 1875 and 1878; as solutions of these particular papers have appeared, Mr. Milne has not printed these, but has, for the benefit of students who have not these solutions handy, substituted for them, in an appendix, questions very similar to them, and of these he gives the solutions. There are also two notes on the geometrical theory of envelopes and geometrical maxima and minima, which will be suggestive of methods of solution. We give a hearty welcome to Mr. Milne's work, and hope that his labours will meet with due recognition and thanks from the increasing body of students who compete year by year for scholarships.

Helps to Higher Arithmetic. By Rev. G. F. Alfree and T. F. J. Scudamore. (Hamilton, Adams & Co.) This book is intended "for the use of schools and candidates for

the public examinations." It consists of a fuller explanation of the "Higher Rules" of arithmetic than is generally given. There are twenty sections, which contain about 150 examples, thoroughly worked out and explained with great care, on such subjects as distance, rate, time, problems on clocks, time and work, &c. The work closes with 1200 miscellaneous examples and answers. We have read the explanatory part and found it clear and to the point. The book is likely to be serviceable to candidates preparing for any of the multitudinous examinations which require a sound and accurate knowledge of the higher parts of arithmetic.

Arithmetic. By A. G. Blake. (Dublin: Alex. Thom.) This does not appear to differ much from many of the innumerable arithmetics which are showered down upon our tables just at this time. The author's aim is good: "When the learner really grasps the rule which he is told to apply, he feels a kind of pleasure and sense of power in applying it which forms a most valuable stimulus to his progress; and it is something of this spirit of mastering, rather than merely obeying the rules, that the author has attempted to keep prominent in his book."

Mr. Blake attaches much weight also to the method of solution employed in working out the exercises.

American Journal of Mathematics. Vol. VIII. No. 1. (Baltimore.) Captain Macmahon, in a memoir on semi-variants, resumes his discussion of the asyzygetic semi-variants (vol. vi., No. 2), and makes reference to previous papers by Prof. Cayley and himself (vol. vii., No. 1). Mr. J. Hammond prints Syzygy Tables for the Binary Quintic, in part correction of Prof. Cayley's enumeration (*Philosophical Transactions*, part ii., 1878). P. Seelhoff continues his paper (vol. vii., No. 3) "Prüfung grösserer Zahlen auf ihre Eigenschaft als Primzahlen"; and also contributes a "nova methodus numeros compactos a primis dignoscendi illorumque factores inveniendi." A very interesting Analysis of Quintic Equations (pp. 45-84) is given by Dr. E. McClintock, which appears to be a full and fair résumé of what has been done in this direction, the references being very numerous. There is an abstract of contents on p. 84. The number closes with the commencement of a paper by Dr. Craig on linear differential equations, whose fundamental integrals are the successive derivatives of the same function.

SCIENCE NOTES.

THE Earl of Roseberry has founded a lectureship on the philosophy of natural history at the University of Edinburgh, to which Mr. G. J. Romanes has been appointed. The term is for five years, during which a course of thirty lectures must be delivered.

MESSRS. CASSELL & CO., will publish this month a *Manual of Surgery*, in three volumes, edited by Mr. Frederick Treves, lecturer on anatomy at the London Hospital. It will contain contributions by the leading physicians and surgeons, and is intended to form a complete and authoritative treatise on the science and art of modern surgery.

MESSRS. SONNENSCHEIN announce in pocket handbook form *A Tourist's Guide to the Flora of the Alps*, translated from the German of Prof. Dalla-Torre by Mr. Alfred Bennett, and issued under the auspices of the German and Austrian Alpine Club.

IN the last number of the *American Journal of Science*, Prof. W. P. Blake, of New Haven, describes a meteorite which was found several years ago in Green co., Tennessee, but has only recently been analysed. It is an arosiderite, or mass of meteoric iron, of elongated ellipsoidal

form, weighing about 290 lbs., and tending to exfoliate on the surface, through the presence of included lawrencite, or ferrous chloride. The metal contains 91.42 per cent. of iron and 7.95 of nickel.

PHILOLOGY NOTES.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN announce a translation of Aristotle's *Rhetoric*, by the Rev. J. E. C. Welldon, headmaster of Harrow.

THE forthcoming number of the *Revue Celtique* will probably contain an article on the "Ancient Laws of Ireland," by Prof. d'Arbois de Jubainville, in which he will deal with that luckless publication as a jurist rather than as a philologist or palaeographer.

MESSRS. JAMES NISBET & CO. have issued this week new edition, revised and enlarged, of the Rev. Dr. W. Wright's *Empire of the Hittites*. The most important additions are plate xxv., giving a drawing by Mr. W. H. Rylands of an inscribed bowl found at Babylon; and plates xxvi. and xxvii., from photographs of the inscribed lion of Marash. Both these inscriptions have afforded fresh materials to Prof. Sayce, which he has utilised in modifying his conjectural decipherments of the "Hittite" characters. In a new preface, and in several new appendices, Dr. Wright has brought together the results of recent discussions concerning the questions treated of. Whatever future discoveries may bring to light in a department of archaeology that is only just opening, it may be safely asserted that these admirable plates are by themselves sufficient to prevent Dr. Wright's work from ever falling into neglect.

THE current number of the *Journal of Philology* (Vol. xiv., No. 28) opens with an article by Mr. J. G. Frazer on "The Prytaneum, the Temple of Vesta, the Vestals, Perpetual Fires." The object of the paper, somewhat after the spirit of Mr. Lang, is to show by the analogy of savage tribes that the perpetual fire in the Greek prytaneum and in the Roman temple of Vesta, far from having a mythological origin, is merely a survival from the time when the kitchen fire was obtained with difficulty by rubbing two sticks together; and that the Vestal virgins were bound to celibacy because they filled the place of the daughters of the royal house who had not yet obtained husbands, and therefore remained at home as maids-of-all work. Mr. Henry Jackson continues his series of papers on "Plato's Later Theory of Ideas," here dealing with the *Sophist*; Prof. Sayce returns to the discussion of "The Season and Extent of the Travels of Herodotus in Egypt"; Mr. Walter Leaf discusses very learnedly the original meaning of the Greek verbs *τίνειν* and *τίθειν*, which he refers to the Sanskrit *sak'*, in the sense of "join," "lay hold of"; and Mr. F. Haverfield sends some "Lexicographical Notes" on Latin words wanting in the last edition of George's *Handwörterbuch*.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

NEW SHAKSPERE SOCIETY.—(Friday, Jan. 15.)

DR. FURNIVALL, Director, in the Chair.—Mr. R. G. Moulton read a paper on "Character Development in 'Henry V.' and 'Macbeth.'" Shakspere generally develops his characters, makes them grow, by means of incidents which happen and act on them during the course of the play; but sometimes he starts a play with a character fully developed, and only displays that character in its different phases. Henry V. and Prospero belong to the latter class: each is fully developed before the plays of "Henry V." and "The Tempest" begin. Macbeth belongs to the former and more general class: his character develops under and in consequence of the events that happen to him. Henry V. is Shakspere's type of

supreme heroism—the practical English nation typified in contrast with the vaunting French. He has to be shown in action, in war; and Shakspere, straitened by the dramatic form, escapes into his nearest approach to epic poems, in his prologues. Though we see his character in different phases, yet there is no advance in that character throughout the play. The archbishop's talk in Act I. shows that the king sprang full-born, complete, into the drama. (His development was in 1 and 2 "Henry IV.") We see (1) his formation of purpose, his decisive resolution to fight France rising to a white heat of passion; (2) his testing by obstacles, his discovery and punishment of the traitors; (3) his war speeches, appealing to every class of his army, stringing up their nerves to the fight; then his threat of revenge on the French town; (4) at the turning point, when the shadow of reverses falls on him, he answers the French herald with no counter defiance, but just "will not shun" the battle; and (5) in the approach to the crisis, he calls up again the spirit of every class of his men, and then begins his self review. When the summons to action comes, he gives one moment to penitence and prayer, and then (6), with every fibre strung, goes on to victory, but give its glory to God. (7.) After the tense action, comes the reaction, the unbending in Act V.—his merriment, his wooing, his tenderness hidden under jokes. But what he is at last, that he was at first. Macbeth, on the other hand, is greatly changed; his character develops in consequence of the events of the play. His nature is practical, yet with susceptibility to crime; he has no self-discipline, and fails in self-conflict; his imagination is superstitious. He has contemplated Duncan's murder before the play opens; as soon as temptation from the supernatural comes, he yields to it, yet his imagination at first restrains him from crime. Then he gives way and accepts the crime, but yet, as it is difficult, he stops and doubts. His fear is only as to practical hindrances; once rid of these and he will commit the murder. Yet suspense brings back his imagination and hesitation. When he realises his guilt, suspense is too strong for him, and he kills the groom. He rallies, but suspense undermines his judgment, and he resolves on Banquo's murder. The susceptibility of his imagination increases: Banquo's ghost is but a creation of his own mind, yet the apparition is more real to him than was the living man. All his nature then becomes wrapt up in the supernatural; his blind trust in the witches betrays him, and his death follows. The character grows, develops in evil under our eyes, through the incidents of the play. A long discussion followed, in which some twenty out of the large meeting joined, and Mr. Moulton replied.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—(Thursday, Jan. 21.)
DR. JOHN EVANS, President, in the Chair.—A collection of about forty mazers was exhibited to the society, comprising nearly all the specimens existing in England, lent for the occasion by the owners, among whom were the Dean and Chapter of York, colleges at Oxford and Cambridge, city companies, and private individuals. The ordinary type is a shallow bowl of maple wood, with a metal rim or band, and a central boss or point, sometimes engraved or enamelled metal, and sometimes a precious stone.

(Thursday, Jan. 28.)

DR. JOHN EVANS, President, in the Chair.—MR. C. E. DRURY FORTNUM read a paper on a diamond signet of Queen Henrietta Maria, in his possession, in continuation of previous remarks on the same topic. This ring was once supposed to have belonged to Mary Queen of Scots, and the same was said of a ruby once in the possession of Cardinal Wiseman; but this proves to be only a copy of Mr. Fortnum's ring. Charles I. had three diamond rings engraved with the royal arms, for himself, his Queen, and his son, Charles II., the subsequent history of which Mr. Fortnum had traced. A similar ring was also made for Mary Queen of William III., and this also had been attributed to Mary Queen of Scots.—DR. DUKE exhibited a beautifully-carved cup of rhinoceros horn from China, representing the flower of the Hibiscus, about 150 years old; and a similar one, but even more elaborate, was sent for comparison

by the Linnean Society. A heavy ivory anklet, as worn by negroes, was also exhibited. REV. C. H. EVELYN WHITE exhibited a curious Neapolitan or Sicilian reliquary, belonging to MR. BUCHANAN SCOTT. It contained a few fragments of bones of saints. Within a massive frame, and under glass, were a great number of minute figures representing Biblical and similar subjects, made of cork and feathers and other materials.—REV. H. J. CHEALES read an account of Roman remains found at WILLOUGHBY in Lincolnshire, the site of a camp which commanded the surrounding marsh. The remains consisted of flue and other tiles, coarse pottery, Samian ware, a portion of a horse's bit, and other objects.

ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY.—(Thursday, Jan. 21.)
C. A. FYFFE, Esq., V.-P., in the Chair.—MESSRS. E. E. BOWEN, C. COLBECK, S. COOPER, and H. STEER were elected Fellows.—MR. HYDE CLARKE read a paper on "The Picts and Pre-Celtic Britain," based on the testimony of Bede as to female succession among the Pictish Kings, and the observations of MR. SKENE, PROF. RHYS, MR. GRANT ALLEN, &c. With these latter the author concurred that the Picts were not Celts or Aryans, but Turanians; and he treated them as Iberian, and belonging to the nations who occupied Britain before the Celts. Under this classification he sought for parallel cases in the heroic age among the Iberian kings of Asia Minor and Greece, of Latiun and Rome. The substitution under Malcolm Canmore of male succession in Scotland he treated as the explanation of the revolution under which the Pictish constitution disappeared. He examined the evidence as to the durability of the form of female succession, and its suitability for the then state of society. Among the Picts it had prevailed for hundreds of years. He pointed out that Queen Victoria, among other ancient descent, possessed this of the line of the Pictish kings. Among the kings of Argos, Mycenae, &c., having examples of female succession, he showed there was a conformity to the three names by which Mr. Skene states the forty Pictish kings were designated. A discussion followed, in which DR. KARL BLIND, MESSRS. J. STUART GLENNIE, JACOBS, and PAGLIARDINI, took part.

CLIFTON SHAKSPERE SOCIETY.—(Saturday, Jan. 23.)
J. W. MILLS, Esq., President, in the Chair.—*Locrine* was the play for consideration. Papers on the play generally were contributed by MISS EMMA PHIPSON, MR. C. H. HERFORD, and MR. J. W. MILLS. Miss Phipson considered that there is not a line of sufficient merit to redeem the play from commonplace, and that the few poetical passages were not beyond the capacity of any of Shakspere's contemporaries. One peculiarity of the play is the partiality of its author for river scenery. Miss Phipson entirely dissented from Mr. Fleay's statement that it was written by Peele as a mock-heroic travesty in ridicule of Greene's work. There is throughout no suggestion of satire, except perhaps in the comic scenes, which are clearly by another hand. The language is laboured and too much in the same strain for parody. It seems more probable that the play was an attempt to imitate Marlowe's *Tamburlaine*. There are many similar passages; and the frequent introduction of classical allusions, the numerous astronomical similes, and the natural history metaphors tend to confirm this view.—MR. HERFORD said that the attribution of *Locrine* to Shakspere is, on the whole, the most audacious enterprise of that school of criticism to which we owe that singular dramatic category, "The Doubtful Plays of Shakspere"; for *Locrine* is un-Shakspelian not so much in subject as in, what is far more decisive, manner and style. It may safely be said that the language is such as Shakspere, at any period whatever, could not have produced. It is not that it is turgid, that it is even ranting; but that its turgidity, its rant, are altogether flat and poverty-stricken, the result not, as in *Titus Andronicus*, of real, though immature, and vehement poetic power discharging itself without restraint into the rigid channel of verse, but of mere rhetorical talent, and that of a low order, attempting by all kinds of artificial expedients to bolster its utterance into the semblance of tragic passion. *Locrine* is not altogether wanting in isolated lines of great beauty, but the effect is incessantly marred by

the intrusion of one or other of the writer's rhetorical tricks—his pompous Latinisms, his mythological metaphors, his intolerable repetitions. His descriptions at their best have an air of having been invented trait by trait, compiled as it were like a mosaic out of a number of separately manufactured bits, not spontaneously conceived by a single act of imagination. In a striking passage the author, instead of supplying a new image or completing a former one, recurs to it and alters it. The pencil does not add to the original outline, but goes over it again and, in trying to improve it, blurs it. This characteristic, the repetitions, the Latinised expressions, and the generally stilted and formal style are so far interesting as showing the expedients to which, in a comparatively unformed state of the language, writers involuntarily resorted in the effort to imitate the manner of classic tragedy. Those who came after had a finer sense both of the force of words and of the real sources of tragic effect; and they rapidly saw, or at least instinctively felt, that a more vivid and thrilling impression could be got out of the homeliest Saxon than out of the comparatively dim, though sonorous words imported from Latin. Shakspere, at any rate, knew this well enough. Though his diction abounds in Latin words, not seldom used in peculiar Latin senses, he was led to this not by the effort to speak tragically but by the effort to express his immense wealth of thought; and his most intense passages are often composed of almost nothing but a string of the briefest and most pregnant Saxon monosyllables. The story shows the same kind of heterogeneousness as the style. It has hardly any unity of dramatic intention. At one time it appears to be a purely military drama; at another, a drama of family rivalry and jealousy. In the first act no hint is given of the future course of the story. Compare with this the wonderful first act of *Othello*, which, though in a certain sense rounded off and complete in itself—the difficulty of Othello's marriage being satisfactorily settled—is crowded with subtle strokes by which the future collapse of this apparently happy settlement is foreshadowed. Towards the end *Locrine* enters on a phase for which we were quite unprepared. It passes from a mere historical play to one with at least the elements of tragedy. The military events, the undramatic stress of mere brute force, give place to something like the genuine working of character on character and passion on passion, which is the condition of tragic effect. The divorced Guendolen, like Medea, takes a terrible vengeance on her rival and on her husband. This is the only genuine tragic motive in the drama. It shows the confused conception of dramatic effect still prevailing when the play was written that it occupies only the last two acts, and that what should be the preparation for it is so amplified that it rivals it in importance if not in interest. The difficult art of combining tragic and comic effects had not been learned by the author of *Locrine*, who followed a tradition which had found vogue in a certain set. There are three chief uses to which comedy may be put as an element in a serious drama:—(1) It may supply a lighter repetition or inversion or parody of the serious action (*cf. Much Ado*); (2) it may supply the necessary complement of the character of the hero (*cf. Henry IV.*); (3) it may be used to intensify the tragic effect at a supreme moment. This last is practically confined to Shakspere in his greatest works; and glimpses only of the first and third, very imperfectly carried out, are discernible in the story of *Strumbe*. *Locrine* may be described as an average production of the school of Greene and Peele, bearing emphatically the stamp of the transitional epoch of dramatic development in which it was produced; in language and style still full of the crude expedients by which every immature school of tragedy attempts to get the effect of passion and sublimity; in subject confused and undecided between the warlike History and the psychological and passionate Tragedy; at the same time admitting a comic element which, though exhibiting the germ of Shakspelian method, is on whole, inartistic and irrelevant in design, as well as crude in treatment.—MR. MILLS pointed out that the author of *Locrine* followed Layamon's *Brut* very closely, and that the slight variations which are introduced are only for greater dramatic effect, and that there is reason to infer that he was

determined both in his choice of a plot and, so far as the dumb show is concerned, in its mode of dramatic treatment by the great success of *Ferrez and Porrex*. If we were to be guided by the allusion in the epilogue as to the date of the play, we should have to face the difficulty that, when the form of the English tragedy was finally established, the author of *Locrine* ignored the usage of Marlowe, Greene, and Shakspere, and went back to methods long discarded. The writer of this play was a university man, more pedantic even than Greene. One of his frequent mannerisms is to repeat a noun just used, placing before it an epithet. Another is, in constructing a complex sentence, to take a word from the first clause to begin the second, and one from the second to make the third, and so on. He was also fond of using the Latin equivalent for certain common nouns and personifying it. These tricks are quite sufficient for the identification of the writer if any other of his compositions are extant. In common with Shakspere, he often employs appropriate illustrations from the things of every-day life, and shows a love for the beautiful objects of nature, feeling no scruple about speaking of them in his drama. In these points he differed from most of the Elizabethans, who seem to have regarded such things as unfitted for their compositions. These touches are, however, too few to give any foundation for a theory of Shakspelian authorship, although they may justify the statement on the title-page of the 1595 edition, that it had been "overseen and corrected by W. S."—a statement compatible with the least possible amount of supervision on his part. Mr. Mills controverted Prof. Ward's statement that the "comic scenes are very fresh and laughable," and was unable to see in them the least trace of Shakspere's work. He then pointed out some peculiarities of pronunciation in the play, and gave many instances of lines which, seeming to be defective, scanned when the pronunciation of the period was recognised.—Mr. L. M. Griffiths presented a Report upon the Rare Words and Phrases in the play. The following are not used by Shakspere: *Eam* = uncle; *vengible* = revengeful; *piganie*, a burlesque form of endearment; the distorted form "*ingeny*" = cleverness; *cap-case*; "*cutting over*," used by the serious Humber for crossing the channel to England; *contentation*; "*nappy ale*," given by Sherwood (Cotgrave) = *de l'aile bien forte*; *superbious*; *stour* = distress; *agnominate*, which was a recognised form, and is given by Minshen; *virent* = green; "*to come in pudding time*" = to come opportunely, or to be not late; *mautorial* = connected with Mars; to spite = to envy, Cotgrave has "*envier*"; to enuile, to maligne, spight; *macerate*; *arcane*; *glaive*. Many others are to be found only in the *Henry VI.* plays, and in the doubtful parts of *Pericles*.

ARISTOTELIAN SOCIETY.—(Monday Jan. 25.)

SHADWORTH H. HODGSON, Esq., President, in the Chair.—Mr. S. Alexander read a paper on "Hegel's Conception of Nature." After giving Hegel's view of the relation of the philosophy of nature to the science of it, the paper went on to discuss his general conception of nature in connection with the Logical Idea and the Spirit. It then described the characteristics of the three great divisions or stages recognised by Hegel—Mechanics, Physics, and Organics—and further illustrated his method by detailed examples taken from each division. The merits and defects of "Hegel's Conception" were then passed in review. His great merit was found in his sense of concreteness or totality; and this gave occasion to discuss his attitude to previous philosophies of nature and to science. The rest of the paper was occupied with applying Hegel's views to the criticism of the modern theories of evolution and the animation of nature with souls.—A lively discussion followed, led off by Dr. A. Bain, who denounced Hegel's philosophy as a mixture of abstractions and metaphors. Mr. G. J. Romanes agreed with the tenor of Dr. A. Bain's remarks, and put the question of the self-consciousness of the Idea in a way which led to a general discussion of Hegel's fundamental positions.

FINE ART.

WINDSOR CASTLE.—A New and Important ETCHING by DAVID LAW, size about 25 in. by 16 in., in progress for Messrs. DOWDESWELL, 123, New Bond-street, London.

GREAT SALE of PICTURES, at reduced prices (Engravings, Chromos, and Gouaches), handsomely framed. Everyone about to purchase pictures should pay a visit. Very suitable for wedding and Christmas presents.—GEO. HERZ, 115, Strand, near Waterloo-bridge.

The Popular Guide to Westminster Abbey. By M. C. Bradley, E. T. Bradley, and A. J. Grahame. ("Pall Mall Gazette" Office.)

THE abbey church of St. Peter at Westminster must in many respects always rank first in interest and importance among all the many noble ecclesiastical buildings of England. As a specimen of church architecture, it occupies a very high position, even when compared with the grandest cathedrals of Britain, containing as it does excellent examples of all the various styles of mediaeval architecture, from the earliest Norman down to the latest and richest development of Perpendicular. As the national storehouse of the tombs of England's royal and illustrious dead, Westminster Abbey stands of course quite alone; and it, in this respect, is unrivalled by any church in the world. The great friars' church of Santa Croce at Florence is itself a building of very inferior beauty; and it contains the chief tombs, not of a whole country, but of one state only, very limited in extent. The abbey church of St. Denis in France might, perhaps, have once rivalled that at Westminster; but it unhappily was burnt and its tombs desecrated during the wildest fury of the Revolution. Lastly, the abbey church of Westminster is quite supreme as a museum of examples of English art, especially that of sculpture, of which it possesses a most complete series, illustrating its rise, its culmination at the end of the thirteenth century, its vigorous life during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, its decadence during the sixteenth, and, lastly, its lowest period of decline during the eighteenth century, when native sculpture was almost extinct, and a crowd of foreign artists of very limited merit took a foremost position amid the applause of that artistically degraded age.

This new and much-needed Guide to the abbey is a very great advance on the previous ones, and has been prepared with much care and patient labour. The chapter on the architecture of the abbey is an excellent résumé of its structural history, not confined to the church, but giving a short account of the domestic parts of the abbey. It is to be hoped that in a future and larger edition this subject may be treated more fully. It is one of very great interest, more especially as, on the whole, the abbey buildings of Westminster are still the most perfect example yet existing in this country of the arrangements and plan adopted by the great Benedictine order of monks.

A large proportion of the Guide is devoted to a description of the many monuments which constitute the chief glory of the church, with well-condensed biographical sketches of the illustrious personages who lie buried there, and in most cases an interesting note on the tomb itself as a work of art. As examples of the early development of art in England, the bronze effigies of Henry III. and Eleanor of Castile by the London goldsmith William Torell are of the highest importance. They show not only a perfect

command of the difficult and beautiful process of casting à *oire perdue*, but are also of great interest as examples of the standard of ideal beauty which was prevalent here in the last years of the thirteenth century. A few years later this system of idealisation was given up, and portrait effigies were introduced, as we see in the recumbent statues of Queen Philippa and Edward III. The effigy of William of Valence is worthy of special notice as a magnificent example—unique in England—of a life-sized figure made of hammered copper plates enriched with the gorgeous champlevé enamels of Limoges, executed about the year 1300. Other effigies from the Limoges fabriques were imported into England during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, but this is the only one which now exists.

The possession of fine examples of foreign art of various dates is one of the points which give the abbey church of Westminster an interest almost beyond that of any church in the world. The shrine of the Confessor, the altar tomb of Henry III., and the pavements of the Sanctuary and of the Confessor's chapel are perhaps the only specimens out of Italy of the handiwork of the great Cosmati family, who, during the whole of the thirteenth century, for three generations stood almost alone as architects, sculptors, and mosaic workers in Rome and Central Italy. The history of these priceless mosaics at Westminster remains yet to be written; but it may some day be possible to show that the *Petrus Civis Romanus* who made the shrine of the Confessor, rich with its gem-like glass mosaics, was identical with the Pietro Cosmati who, with Arnolfo del Cambio, the great Florentine sculptor, made the magnificent baldachino over the high altar of the great Basilica of S. Paolo fuori le mura and other beautiful pieces of combined sculpture and mosaic which still exist in the churches of Rome. Again, the visitor to the abbey is brought in touch with Florence at its time of culminating splendour in the plastic art, when he stands before the tomb of Henry VII., with its noble bronze effigies of the king and Elizabeth of York, and the still more beautiful medallion reliefs on the base representing the "avouries" of the king and queen—all the work of the clever Florentine sculptor, Pietro Torrigiano, whose evil temper brought him to so tragical an end at the hands of the Spanish Inquisition. Even Italy itself possesses no such fine examples of this artist's work.

Passing on to later and artistically less glorious times, this church contains examples of the skill as a bronze worker of Hubert le Sceur, a pupil of John of Douay, whose equestrian statue of Charles I. at Charing Cross is by far the finest of the public monuments of London. Grinling Gibbons, too, is represented; and the church contains a whole crowd of the technically skilful, but tasteless, works of Roubiliac and his older rivals, such as Scheemaker and Rysbrack. After all, bad as the works of these Flemish sculptors were, the native talent of the present century reached perhaps a lower level still. The huge, and yet petty, statue of James Watt by Chantrey has not even technical merits to atone for its aesthetic hideousness; nor is much improvement visible in the recent statuary.

The introduction to the Guide written by the Dean of Westminster is very pleasant reading, and contains an able historical outline of what is most worthy of study in the abbey church, leaving the subsequent pages to deal with each point at greater length. The arrangement of the subject-matter throughout is excellent; and plans to a large scale show clearly the position of each tomb mentioned in the text, so that the visitor to the abbey can quickly and easily find any tomb of which he is in search.

This Guide, in spite of its very low price—sixpence—is copiously illustrated with a number of sketches, some of which have much archaeological interest, as, for example, the view of the abbey church with a conjectural restoration of part of the Confessor's nave, showing the somewhat strange appearance of the building in the reign of Edward I., and others copied from Hollar's engravings. These clever pen-and-ink sketches have now a special and a very sad interest: they were among the last works of Archibald J. Grahame, one of the joint authors of the text. He died in October last, aged only twenty-eight. He was a man of exceptional beauty of character, full of vigorous life and enthusiasm for his profession—that of an architect. This is not the place to enlarge on the deep grief that his early death has caused to all who knew him.

J. H. MIDDLETON.

EGYPT EXPLORATION FUND.

EXCAVATIONS AT NAUKRATIS.

Nebreh: Jan. 23, 1886.

During the fortnight that has elapsed since my last report work here has been going on steadily. Nothing new has been undertaken, but all the old sites have been yielding antiquities even beyond our expectation. Mr. A. H. Smith gave me valuable help with the cemetery last week; and I was very sorry he was unable to stay longer, especially since during the last few days the yield has been increasing at such a rate as almost to get beyond proper control.

There are at present five sites here that call for mention, the temenos of the Dioskouroi having been given up, as promising nothing from further work. I will accordingly report on these each in turn.

The cemetery has, as was to be expected, much improved in the richness of its graves as we are nearing the centre of the small mound in which it is situated. This mound is quite full of graves of all periods, from the sixth to the third century B.C. The coffins are either of earthenware, which has always broken from the pressure of the earth, or of wood, which has disappeared, leaving only the terra-cotta ornaments, gorgoneia, bucrania and rosettes, that once adorned it, and the iron or bronze nails that held it together. Sometimes a layer of sand is placed around the body, to keep it from the heavy black earth that surrounds it. It does not seem possible to draw any conclusions as to age from the depth of graves, as I have found some that are evidently late low down in the earth, while earlier ones are sometimes at a comparatively high level. At Naukratis, as elsewhere, the custom prevailed of burying with the dead objects for their use. Mirrors and lamps have in several cases been found; small vases too in great numbers, but not many of fine work. One small rouge-pot still contained rouge as fit for use as on the day it was put in. The most valuable single object is, perhaps, a gold and bronze ring, with an intaglio design representing a kneeling Eros.

The piece-work on the line of what we supposed to be the city wall has not yet led to any decisive results; but a large corner tower to the east and a second great wall parallel to the first seem to belong to a strong fortress rather than a continuous circumvallation.

On the south further excavation has led to the appearance of two more large fragments of the sphinx, whose discovery Mr. Petrie has already reported. I have had these put together in their proper places; and the whole now forms a very imposing figure, complete but for the face, which is sliced off the head, and, I fear, hopelessly lost. I have photographed it in its present state.

In the supposed temenos of Hera work has been stopped for the present, to be resumed afterwards after a more systematic manner. The Arabs have dug so low there that I fear it will prove impossible to recover the plan of any buildings; but they will probably have left behind all the potsherds, statuettes, &c., and these alone are likely to repay a careful search.

The temple of Aphrodite, however, has occupied most attention during the last fortnight, and has proved the richest field of discovery. Not only are the three buildings of various ages quite distinct, but the plan of the earliest can be completely recovered from the remains of plaster on its walls and floor. But outside the temple the state of things is still more remarkable. A deep trench on the north cut through a layer of fragments of the finest archaic pottery, and we accordingly supposed at the time that we had found a rubbish trench similar to that in the temenos of Apollo. This has, however, proved to be a mistaken view. Wherever the work is deep enough, on the north, south, and east of the temple, a similar layer is found, at a depth not much above or below the floor of the earliest temple. Its richness may be judged from the fact that to-day alone I brought in four baskets full of nothing but fragments of pottery from it, all painted and many inscribed. Nor does it consist of pottery alone, for in a confused mixture of bones, charcoal, and potsherds, are embedded numerous archaic statuettes of terra-cotta or soft stone. Of these I have already about twenty, more or less perfect, not counting inconsiderable fragments. They vary considerably in their subjects. One represents a mother and child, obviously derived from the Isis and Horus type, yet differing essentially from it—archaic Greek, not Egyptian work. Another seems to be a hunter, with eight hares slung over his shoulders—four in front and four behind. This last is the largest of all; it measures fourteen inches from the top of the head to the thigh, the rest of the legs being lost. Both from their depth and their style all these objects must belong to the beginning of the sixth century B.C. at latest; and it is clear that there is as yet gathered in but a very small portion of the rich harvest that is to be gained here. The appearance of the stratum is most extraordinary, and its origin hard to explain. Perhaps the earliest temple was completely cleared out, and its contents used to raise the surrounding area when a new floor was laid down about twelve inches above the previous level. Traces of a plaster pavement of the court outside are here and there to be found at a level that seems generally higher than the richest of the rubbish. If this be the case, no temporal stratification will be found, but on the other hand we shall have a valuable record of what objects were contemporaneous at Naukratis. It is impossible as yet to tell how far it will be practicable to put together into single wholes the numerous vases whose fragments were thus strewn about; but among so many it seems probable that a few at least will prove more or less complete.

ERNEST A. GARDNER.

MR. ORROCK'S DRAWINGS.

The position of Mr. Orrock as a painter of landscape with learning and gifts, as an artiste sensitive to very various effects in nature, will be enhanced distinctly by the show of drawings which he makes just now at Messrs. Dowdeswell's. Mr. Orrock spent last summer and autumn in the Border country, exploring not yet, indeed, the whole of it, but still many portions; and his works exhibited in Bond Street are the record—as picturesque as art is bound to be and as faithful as art is permitted to be—of many an effect of light and weather on the rocky coast, the rich woodland, the festooning river, and the grim castle. The scenery of Sir Walter Scott—the scenery among which he lived for a part of his boyhood and towards which his imagination turned in the poetry and prose fiction of his middle age—finds now in Mr. Orrock as devoted an illustrator as his *dramatis personae* and the splendour of his interiors have long ago discovered in Sir James Linton. Sir James and Mr. Orrock will do between them much more than their share in maintaining that interest in Scott's novels and poetry which has shown, for the last quarter of a century, some tendency to wane. But in criticism we are less concerned with them as the able apologists or upholders of a romantic writer than as independent artists treating, with skill, themes pleasant for their own sakes. Mr. Orrock's drawings deserve to be popular just because they make no concessions to merely popular taste. If they are popular, they will be so because they are good. They are the work of an artist who has studied landscape in nature and in the earlier and more learned English art. They are singularly correct and masculine in draughtsmanship, often sensitive to beauty of form, and subtle in tone. There is no sensational effect in them from the beginning to the end. Neither is there a trace of that false daintiness, that merely superficial delicacy which the uninitiated find quite as seductive. Before nothing do we exclaim "How wonderful!"—before nothing do we exclaim "How pretty!" All is sterling, even where all is not attractive, and a well-considered labour is accomplished finally with decisive strokes. Though the fifty drawings are all of them possessed of individual merit, and though the series, as a series, has interest of a kind that can scarcely belong to detached work, yet it is permissible to single out for special mention two or three drawings wrought in the artist's most fortunate moments when the hand executed most completely the intention of the mind. We should name, especially, "Berwick from Spittal" and "Holy Island—Low Water," and "Melrose and the Eildon Hills" and "Craster—Summer Morning," as possessing very peculiar charms of atmospheric effect or colour.

OBITUARY.

A FAMILIAR and characteristic figure has passed from the world of art and connoisseurship. M. Clément, the eminent French printseller—by no means to be confounded with his literary namesake, M. Clément of the *Débats*—died lately, sixty-eight years old. To print-collectors in London he was known almost as well as to those in Paris, where he exercised for years the function of purchaser of engravings for the Bibliothèque nationale. He had a shop in the rue des Saints Pères, where however the present writer can never recollect seeing him. If one went into the shop in the rue des Saints Pères it was M. Jules who was in attendance, and M. Jules was the possessor of knowledge and of unlimited powers. His chief was possibly interviewing one of the Rothschilds, or in conference with M. Dutuit, the aged collector, at Rouen, or perhaps he was in the express train that goes through to

Vienna, or he might be meditating the capture of rare prints at Berlin. If a fine collection of Rembrandt etchings was to be sold at Sotheby's, he was to be seen in Wellington Street—*affairé*, rubicund, a little excited even, and a person of importance, an unquestioned expert, and on these occasions the ambassador of millionaires. His last appearance of great note in London was at the sale of the Griffiths Rembrandts, two or three years ago, when he made many purchases, and notably carried away the very rarest and most sought-for thing in the entire collection, Rembrandt's "Van Tol." That passed—when he took it back with him to France—into the hands of M. Dutuit, with reversion to one of the Rothschilds. But a diligent collector, we have noticed, has a faculty of living long; and it may yet be some time before the Rothschilds inherit. The scene at Sotheby's, when M. Clément bought this print for we forget exactly what unheard-of sum, was an historic one. Mr. Wilkinson was selling. The best English connoisseurs were all in the room; and several, either by themselves or through eminent dealers, essayed to make a fight for the possession. At last Mr. Addington, the veteran English amateur, was left in single-handed combat with M. Clément. He rose from his seat, with one hand in his pocket, and, stimulated clearly by the wish that the rare print should not leave our shores, made several generous advances upon his original offer. But M. Clément was invulnerable. He held, it is believed, an absolutely unlimited commission. The instructions he had received with regard to the print were not "Buy it for so much," but simply, "Buy it." And he carried out his instructions.

NOTES ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY.

MR. A. S. MURRAY has been appointed to the Keepership of Greek and Roman Antiquities at the British Museum, vacant by the resignation of Prof. C. T. Newton.

THE following are the terms of the letter to the Vice-Chancellor, in which Mr. Sidney Colvin has announced his resignation of the Slade professorship at Cambridge:

"After two years' experience, I am beginning to find the double duties of my keepership and of the Slade professorship too much for my strength. I have, therefore, decided to resign the Slade professorship. In making the fact of my resignation known to the members of the university, I hope you will not fail also to make known the regret with which I surrender an office the tenure of which for the last thirteen years has been to me a source of unmixed pride and satisfaction."

The professorship is of the annual value of £360, and is held for a term of three years, subject to re-election. Residence is not compulsory; but the professor is required to deliver every year a course of twelve lectures on the history, theory, and practice of the fine arts, or of some section or sections of them. We understand that, besides Mr. J. H. Middleton, Prof. W. M. Conway, of Liverpool, and Mr. Ernest Radford, will offer themselves as candidates.

MRS. BRIDELL FOX has presented to the National Gallery a fine landscape by her former husband, the late Mr. F. Lee Bridell. It is a study, made entirely on the spot, of "The Sweet-Chestnut Woods above the Lake of Como, with Monte Rosa in the Distance." This masterly work was painted in 1860, and exhibited the year after at the British Institution.

THE council of the Royal Institute of British Architects has awarded the royal gold medal for 1886 to M. Charles Garnier, architect of the new opera house at Paris.

MISS MARY BOYLE, who wrote a handbook to Lord Bath's pictures at Longleat, has just completed a biographical catalogue of the portraits at Panshanger, the seat of Lord Cowper. A few surplus copies have been printed for collectors, and can be had through Mr. Elliott Stock.

THE spring exhibition of the Nineteenth Century Art Society will be opened next week in the Conduit Street Galleries. The private view is fixed for to-day.

THE little collection of Turner line engravings at the Burlington Fine Arts Club, which has opened to members within the last few days, has a distinct interest. It is, of course, only a partial collection—a complete one would be an immense task, such as the club could not hope to carry out at short notice; and it is confined, and was meant to be confined, to the reproductions, in line, of those famous drawings which are now at the Royal Academy. The engravings from these drawings are naturally not among the rarer possessions of the Turner collector. They are indispensable; but, in some state or other, they are not—fortunately—difficult to obtain. Whatever interest there may be in extreme rarity belongs rather to the earlier engravings made after Turner, when Turner was hardly celebrated. Now, most of the drawings at the Academy, and most of the engravings at the Burlington Club, belong to one or other of the well-known series planned by Turner or his supporters in his middle life. These—not to speak of the mixed mezzotint and etching of the *Liber Studiorum* nor of the pure mezzotint of *Rivers of England* and *Ports of England*—are the *Southern Coast*, the *Richmondshire*, the *Views in Sussex*, and the *England and Wales*. There are also the Scott illustrations. The impressions exhibited at the Burlington Club are the finest that can be found. To obtain impressions of that quality would, indeed, nowadays tax the most diligent collector beyond his strength. And there are many engravers' proofs, and some touched proofs. The collection—enriched by an early drawing of "Llanthony" which belongs to Mr. Taylor, who is the owner of the later and greater drawing of the same subject now at the Academy—is drawn from the portfolios of Mr. H. Vaughan, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Tebbs, and Mr. Rawlinson. To Mr. Rawlinson belong, by far, the greatest number. It is rather late in the day to expatiate upon the merits of these works. One need only remember that they are among the ablest and most delicate translations of some among the noblest labours of our greatest English master, and that the translations were executed by men who wrought for the most part under the eye of the original author. They, therefore, in great measure, express his thought with accuracy.

AT his forges in Archer Street, Rupert Street, Mr. Newman, to whose artistic productions in wrought iron we have more than once called attention, gave, on Saturday last, a very interesting lecture on the subject, illustrated by specimens of old and modern work. With the aid of his intelligent and skilful staff of smiths Mr. Newman was not only able to give a description but also practical examples of the method of forging ornamental scrolls, leaves, and other items of art work in wrought iron. Among the most recent productions of Mr. Newman are a number of very spirited grotesque and heraldic gas brackets and standards which have been designed and executed for the Duke of Hamilton.

RECENT excavations at the farm of Blondel, in Avenches, confirm the opinion stated last year by archaeologists that it was the Christian burial-place of the Roman period. A white marble gravestone has been unearthed with a

Latin inscription of four lines, too incomplete to be deciphered. A second stone is ornamented with a dove—a Christian symbol. In an oaken casket—supposed to be that of a young Christian maiden—were found two drinking vessels with engravings of palm branches, and an invocation to God, a ring ornamented with crosses, a necklace which indicated Christian ownership, and even incense. Excavations north of the same field have brought many heathen symbols to light—two life-size busts of Jura marble, a number of urns with burnt remains, and the half of a column with a Roman heathen inscription.

THE STAGE.

THE PLAY AT THE PRINCE'S.

MR. COGHLAN'S new play at the Prince's Theatre—owing, confessedly, a good deal to M. Ohnet—is, in popular estimation, the important production of the week. It is a very serious piece, yet—like so serious a thing as life itself—it is not without comedy. Mr. Coghlan aims now and then to amuse, if only when he is weary of harrowing. He has written a piece which is not likely, we take it, to add to the permanent treasures of dramatic literature, for he is not a poet, not an inventor, but an actor of taste and discretion. What he has done is to provide a five-act drama which will engage for a few weeks or months "the three hours' traffic of the stage"; and he has done this in part by a measure of literary dexterity which we have never denied—nay, which we have cordially acknowledged before now—and in part by his possession of that stage experience which an actor may compass, but which a man of genius like Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson finds it difficult to thoroughly acquire. Mr. Coghlan and Mr. Pinero represent, perhaps, best of all to-day that order of talent which employs itself acceptably in England upon dramatic writing. Both are capable craftsmen, and one of them at least has generally nice taste to serve him in good stead. Neither is a pure writer of marked individuality. But both can perform ordinary work not at all discreditably. Mr. Coghlan, in fashioning this piece for Mrs. Langtry, has remembered himself. He had every right to do so. For he is an actor who is wont to "fill the stage"—as the phrase goes. People see and hear him with pleasure. He has ease, dignity, no lack of charm. But he carries reticence a little too far. His acting—that is to say, in emotional passages—leaves too much to be imagined. It is very artistic to suggest sometimes, rather than actually to realise; but Mr. Coghlan, as an actor in emotional passages, sometimes does not even suggest. Instead of grappling with a difficulty, he has been known to avoid it. The old Prince of Wales's method—that of the gentlemanly charade actor—sticks to him a little still. Mr. Fernandez plays a melodramatic part very well. At the very least, he is as an actor what Mr. Coghlan is as a writer—a capable craftsman. More than that, he has methods of his own. Mr. Everill is likewise engaged happily enough upon the new piece. Mrs. Langtry is, of course, the heroine. By her performance of the heroine's part, she makes a step upward in a career followed with diligence, yet beset with difficulty. We all remember the day when,

though she was a very pretty woman, she was not an artist at all, and only the *Times* newspaper believed in her. It is not often that the *Times* newspaper is successfully prophetic; and truth compels us to admit that, in the present case, its ecstasies remain undeserved. Still, Mrs. Langtry, having worked for years, has developed a great deal more talent than any judge of the theatre would ever have thought that she was likely to display. A comparative failure, even lately, in Lady Teazle, she succeeded in *Peril*; and, in Mr. Coghlan's new piece something more than a mediocre success will probably attend her. There is more than one passage in which she displays force; a dramatic instinct almost; something not very far from that finest of the virtues—subtlety.

FREDERICK WEDMORE.

MUSIC.

MR. GUSTAV ERNST gave the first of three chamber concerts, at the Princes' Hall, on Thursday evening, January 28. The programme commenced with Volkmann's pianoforte Trio in B flat minor (Op. 5), an interesting and ambitious, if not altogether satisfactory work. With the exception of the G minor Quartett for strings which has been heard several times at the Popular Concerts, Volkmann's chamber music is little known in this country; and Mr. Ernest's choice of the Trio was commendable. It was well interpreted by Messrs. Ernest, Nachéz, and Jules de Swert. Mr. Ernest played a Fantasie in F sharp minor for piano of his own. We were able to admire the simplicity of the themes, and the clear form of the movement, but found some of the passages bordering on the commonplace. The piece was well interpreted by the composer. M. Tivadar Nachéz gave some violin solos, being heard at his best in one of his Danses Tziganes. M. J. de Swert likewise contributed violoncello solos, and was much applauded. The singing of Mr. and Mrs. Henschel, in songs by Ernest and Henschel, added to the success of the evening. The programme concluded with Beethoven's Trio (Op. 70, No. 1).

The Second Popular Wagner Concert, at Willis's Rooms, last Friday week, was well attended. As before, the programme commenced with Wagner, but concluded with a miscellaneous and not very classical selection of pieces, vocal and instrumental. One movement from Mendelssohn's Pianoforte Trio in D minor, an ineffective arrangement for violoncello of a Chopin Nocturne, a light Gavotte by Popper, and some popular songs and ballads, are certainly not the kind of pieces to follow excerpts from Wagner's operas and music-dramas. Why should not the managers give some of the lyric songs of Schubert and Schumann, or some of the less known ones by Jensen, Brahms, Franz, and Liszt? There would then be contrast, and of the right sort. The attempt to give Wagner's music with only the pianoforte as accompaniment is, of course, not all that could be desired; but Herr Leideritz is a skilful and intelligent pianist, and makes the best of his material. The singing was much better than on the first evening. Miss J. Pieterson sang with much feeling the Study to "Tristan und Isolde," and Mr. Iver McKay was recalled after the Siegmund Love-song. He also gave Walther's Prize-song, but has not quite caught the spirit of the music. We may further mention Mdme. Sofia Ortona (Gold Medallist) for her meritorious rendering of "Roberto tu che adoro." She likewise received the honour of a recall. Miss Edith Desmond in Elizabeth's Prayer, and in a song by H. Klein, also met with much success.

Last Monday evening the Popular Concert

programme included, as a novelty, a Sonata for pianoforte and violin (Op. 21) by Miss Agnes Zimmermann. This work shows how well the lady has profited by her early instruction, and by her study of the great masters. The music is cleverly constructed and faultless in form. The first movement is the best of the four. It is vigorous and earnest. The Scherzo, Hungarian in character, is bright and cheerful. The Andante is full of melody of a Mendelssohnian type. The concluding Rondo is scarcely equal in merit to the rest of the work. The Sonata was exceedingly well played by Mdme. Norman Néruda and the composer. Miss Zimmermann was likewise heard in Mendelssohn's Rivulet and Prelude and Fugue in E minor. The first was well given, but in the second she was tempted to hurry towards the close. The programme included Beethoven's Quintett for strings (Op. 4). Mrs. Henschel was the vocalist, and was ably accompanied by her husband.

M. Vladimir de Pachmann gave his third pianoforte recital at St. James's Hall last Tuesday afternoon. A programme, including an interesting Chopin selection and some of Henselt's most showy pianoforte solos, naturally attracted a large audience; for, as an interpreter of these two composers, M. de Pachmann stands almost without a rival. We have so often spoken about his wonderful powers as an executant, his delicate touch, and his refined readings of this particular kind of music, that we need only say that he once again distinguished himself, and that he was most enthusiastically applauded. Of the Chopin selection, the third Scherzo (Op. 54) and the Polonaise (Op. 44) were the most important. The renderings of these pieces, and of Henselt's "Danklied nach Sturm," and of the difficult "Toccata," were exceedingly fine. M. de Pachmann also played Beethoven's Variations in C minor and the Sonata in F minor (Op. 54). As a rule, we have not liked his Beethoven, and his reading of the Appassionata did not alter our opinion. What suits Chopin's music does not suit Beethoven's; and M. de Pachmann seems unwilling or unable to forget the former when interpreting the latter.

Dvorák's Cantata, "The Spectre's Bride," was performed for the first time in London at the fourth of the Novello Concerts, at St. James's Hall, last Tuesday evening. When produced at the Birmingham Festival last August, it was universally acknowledged to be a work of genius; and, judging from its reception, that opinion was endorsed last Tuesday by the London audience, including many names of musical note. Dvorák's melodies are tuneful, simple, and yet very far removed from the commonplace. But he clothes them in rich and varied harmonies: sometimes gaining effect by a bold chord or sudden modulation; sometimes by a change as subtle as it is delicate. Charm of melody, or clever devices of harmony, may be evident from a perusal of the vocal score; but the work must be heard to enable one to form any conception of the powerful and vivid orchestration. We will not now discuss the question of programme music—it may not be the highest form of musical art; but Dvorák's "Spectre's Bride" is, and will probably long remain, one of the most wonderful and daring of tone-pictures. Of the soloists, Mdme. Albani and Mr. E. Lloyd did full justice to the music. Mr. Santley did all he could, but he was not in good voice. Before the Cantata came Mr. Mackenzie's Orchestral Ballad, "La Belle Dame sans Merci" and Dvorák's Patriotic Hymn. The latter composition was heard a short time ago at a concert given by M. Geaussent. It is an early work, in which one can trace but faintly the hand that wrote the "Spectre's Bride." Mr. Mackenzie conducted as usual; but neither band nor chorus was in such good condition as at the last concert, when "The Redemption" was given.

J. S. SHEDLOCK.

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